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Japan

Complaints To GATT Considered Over ROK, EC

OW0406072292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0647 GMT
04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan is preparing to file a complaint against South Korea for imposing anti-dumping duties on Japanese-made polyacetal resin, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Thursday.

The complaint will be submitted to a dispute settlement panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) council, ministry officials said.

MITI is also considering filing a complaint against the European Community (EC) over its antidumping tariffs on Japanese-made audiocassette tapes and bearings, the officials said.

The complaint will be the first since Japan won a case involving EC dumping regulations in 1988, they said.

Last September, the South Korean Government decided to impose antidumping duties on polyacetal resin exported by Asahi Chemical Industry Co. and other Japanese firms, alleging the cheaper prices for the resin have damaged Korean industries.

Seoul set a base price for the material used for plastics and sought to collect the difference between the base price and lower import prices.

Japan contended that Korean industries have enjoyed favorable business as a result of this and no damage was done to them.

Both governments have continued negotiating but have made no progress, the officials said.

After trying to bring the issue to the GATT council's arbitration, Japan is likely to file an official complaint, the officials said.

The complaint under contemplation against the EC involves tariffs on audiocassette tapes made by Sony Corp. and TDK Corp., as well as repayment of overtaxation on ball bearings made by Minebea Co., they said.

The GATT council is scheduled to hold an arbitration meeting early in July on the cassette tape case, they said.

Unless the arbitration results in a solution within three months, Japan will file a complaint by the end of this year at the earliest, they said.

Trade Talks With ROK Planned for 11-12 Jun

OW0406121692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1143 GMT
04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan and South Korea will hold working-level talks here June 11 and 12 aimed at redressing Japan's large trade surplus and promoting

the transfer of Japanese industrial technology, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Officials said the upcoming talks, which will be the third such gathering, will cover measures to promote South Korean exports to Japan.

South Korea registered a record trade deficit of 9.6 billion dollars last year, including 8.7 billion dollars with Japan.

The participants are likely to discuss a South Korean proposal for establishment of a 200 million dollar fund to promote industrial, scientific and technological cooperation.

The South Korean proposal was first discussed at the second working-level talks held last April.

Japan, for its part, is expected to ask that Japanese trading companies be allowed to engage in export and import business in South Korea.

At the April talks, Seoul indicated it would meet the Japanese demand if Tokyo accepted its call for establishment of the fund.

Japan responded that the government cannot contribute money for the fund, but it pledged to persuade the Japanese private sector to do so.

The two countries established the working-level forum, called the Japan-South Korea Committee on Trade, Industry and Technical Cooperation, under an agreement in November 1990. It first met in Tokyo in June 1991.

Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and South Korean President No Tae-u agreed during Miyazawa's visit to Seoul last January that the two countries will draw up an action plan by this month to rectify Japan's trade surplus with South Korea.

Tokyo Disappointed With EC Report on Ties

OW0406092292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT
4 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan will soon convey a message of "disappointment" to the European Community (EC) over a recent draft report on EC relations with Japan, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The official said the report allegedly overemphasizes trade friction and includes a number of "misunderstandings."

Japan hopes that its communication, addressing the EC's Executive European Commission and the 12 EC member states, will be considered in preparatory discussions in advance of a meeting of the EC council of ministers on June 15-16.

The council is to consider adoption of the commission's draft report, which was released May 20 and outlines problems faced by the EC in reducing its growing trade deficit with Japan.

"We hope there will be some improvement in the text of this (report) so that it becomes more constructive and more fruitful for both sides," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"It is true we are somewhat disappointed," he said, adding that considering the importance of the Japan-EC relationship the draft report was "not satisfactory for us."

The official said that despite an EC-Japan joint declaration agreeing that ties should not be confined to the economic sphere, the commission report "still focuses on commercial and economic issues, rather than placing appropriate importance on political dialogue and global cooperation."

He said Japan appreciates the fact that, in terms of the tone, the draft report represents an improvement over the last such report issued in 1988, which focused almost exclusively on economic problems.

"But when we look at new importance of Japan-EC relations and wide-ranging Japan-EC cooperation, the changes are not as far-reaching as we had expected," he said.

The draft report said the EC must convince Japan to do more to open up its market to European services and investment to help offset a spiraling trade deficit that reached a record 27 billion dollars in 1991.

It complained about the tendency of Japan and the U.S. to conclude bilateral trade deals at the expense of others, and it recommended that the EC similarly seek direct deals with Japan if the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks on liberalizing world trade "are not sufficient or are delayed too long."

The report furthermore called for greater EC access to Japanese public works projects and singled out trade barriers to EC exports of agricultural goods, leather and leather shoes, cars, pharmaceuticals, and medical equipment.

The Foreign Ministry official said that in checking a list of bilateral economic issues in an annex of the draft report, Japan found "some misunderstandings and some things just wrong."

He said Japan was dismayed that among the items listed were some in which there has already been some improvement "so we don't feel it is appropriate for (the report) to reflect otherwise."

The official said the Japanese message would not be "critical," but would frankly point out errors and misunderstandings.

"Rather than engaging in mutual criticism, we are seeking constructive dialogue in order to make our relations with the EC more constructive and more global-minded," he said.

Rough Accord Reached With U.S. on Microchips

*OW0306145292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 KYODO—Japan and the United States reached a rough agreement Wednesday in advance of the third semiconductor trade talks Thursday and Friday in Tokyo, government sources said.

The accord came during informal discussions on the primary issues of the talks.

According to the sources, the two sides agreed that major Japanese semiconductor users will specify how many foreign-made microchips they will buy by the end of this year.

The Japanese side will also propose arranging marketing negotiations for and launching joint development projects with U.S. semiconductor makers, particularly in the automobile industry, to strengthen bilateral business ties in microchip trade.

The two sides are expected to issue a joint statement at the end of the talks Friday.

The rough agreement prevents the talks from breaking off and the U.S. taking retaliatory action against Japan—the worst possible situation for both countries, the sources said.

Government Recalls Ambassador From Belgrade

*OW0406152492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1457 GMT
4 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan on Thursday ordered the return of its ambassador stationed in Belgrade, the former capital of the divided Yugoslav republic, a top Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the government has recalled Ambassador Taizo Nakamura in line with actions already taken by the United States and members of the European Community to protest Serbia's involvement in the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The decision also follows Japan's pledge last Monday to implement wide-ranging sanctions against Serbia and its ally Montenegro on June 1 in line with a United Nations Security Council resolution adopted May 30.

The official said Japan would take no immediate measures against the two diplomats from the fractured Yugoslav republic who are still stationed in Tokyo.

On Monday, Britain said it was expelling the Yugoslav ambassador stationed in that country, while Japan and other nations have refused to recognize Serbia and Montenegro's claims as successors to Yugoslavia.

Embassy Protests Treatment of Cameraman in PRC

*OW0406063392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0550 GMT
4 Jun 92*

[Text] Beijing, June 4 KYODO—Japan protested Thursday the roughing up of a Japanese television network cameraman by Chinese security authorities Wednesday while he was attempting to cover a one-man demonstration in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

Koichi Matsumoto, a minister with the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, called on the Chinese Foreign Ministry and protested to Information Director Wu Jianmin about Wednesday's incident.

On Wednesday, Atsushi Yamagiwa of the Tokyo Broadcasting System Inc. (TBS), was among at least eight foreign journalists rounded up by Chinese authorities in Tiananmen Square.

The journalists, including two KYODO News Service reporters, were attempting to cover a lone Chinese demonstrator protesting the government's military suppression of a pro-democracy demonstration there three years ago.

Yamagiwa was reportedly punched and kicked by the authorities before being taken away.

Meanwhile, officials in Washington and Bonn registered similar protests with Chinese authorities over the detaining of their nation's journalists in Tiananmen Square.

TBS also sent a letter of protest to the Chinese authorities over the violent treatment of its cameraman Yamagiwa, company officials said.

The letter was handed to the Chinese Foreign Ministry through the TBS Beijing bureau, the officials said.

The officials said the bureau plans to demand an explanation of the incident and an apology from Beijing security authorities.

It will also ask them to return a videotape they confiscated from Yamagiwa, they said.

South African President Continues Activities

Discusses Objectives of Visit

*MB0306135192 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1146 GMT 3 Jun 92*

[By Ben MacLennan]

[Excerpts] Tokyo June 3 SAPA—South African State President F. W. de Klerk met Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa for an hour of talks and dinner in Tokyo on Wednesday [3 June] night as part of his bid to pave the way for Japanese investment in South Africa. Mr. de Klerk received red-carpet treatment when he

arrived in the city on Wednesday morning from Russia, where he held talks with President Boris Yeltsin. [passage omitted]

Shortly after his arrival Mr. de Klerk told a group of Japanese businessmen at a reception organised by the Southern Africa Trade Association that South Africa was the gateway to Africa, and that he looked forwards to a "new era, a new chapter in the relations between our countries and their peoples".

Addressing about 200 members of the Springbok Club—an organisation for Japanese businessmen with links to South Africa—the state president said he wanted to thank "our friends in Japan" for standing by South Africa when it was difficult to do so. Referring to constitutional talks, Mr. de Klerk said: "We have to build a bridge between the interests of those who have much to lose and the hopes and aspirations of those who have suffered for a long time as a result of backlogs". [passage omitted]

The thrust of the talks, which will be effectively continued in meetings with the ministers of transport and of trade and industry on Thursday, are the need for new Japanese investment in South Africa and the South African Government's wishes to see a regular air link established and a flow of Japanese tourists into the country.

Mr. de Klerk will also deliver a major address on Thursday at a luncheon of the Keidanren Kaikan, the equivalent of the South African Chamber of Business. Major corporations in Japan will have representatives at the luncheon.

Mr. de Klerk told South African journalists at a press briefing before he landed in Tokyo that he wanted to achieve in Japan "what is best for all South Africans". This included South Africa's [SA] full return to the international community, and instilling the confidence necessary to draw substantial foreign investment into South Africa. "I don't think that in two or three weeks after my visit Japanese capital will suddenly flow into SA. That is not my objective. My objective is to build on foundations which have already been laid, to build confidence, to open up the eyes of entrepreneurs to the opportunities offered by South and southern Africa."

On Friday, the third day of his Japanese visit, Mr. de Klerk is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on the emperor before flying on to Singapore for the last stop on his three-nation tour which began with two days in Russia.

'Extremely Constructive' Talks Held

*MB0306164292 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1446 GMT 3 Jun 92*

[By Ben MacLennan]

[Text] Tokyo June 3 SAPA—South African State President F. W. de Klerk emerged optimistic from an hour of "extremely constructive" talks on investment with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday [3

June]. "I am convinced that much good will emerge for South Africa from this discussion," said Mr. de Klerk in a statement issued through his press officer.

Mr. de Klerk arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday morning on a three-day mission to lure Japanese capital to both South Africa and the southern African region. Japan is already South Africa's second-largest trading partner.

South African participants in the meeting said Mr Miyazawa had described Mr. de Klerk as "bold and courageous" in his moves towards constitutional reform, and had said all obstacles in the way of bilateral relations had been removed.

Now that this stage of political normalisation had been reached, the South Africans said, it was up to individual Japanese companies to decide what their position on investment should be. "They are poised for takeoff", said one. "What precisely the trigger will be, one can speculate. It will be different things for different companies—their assessment of political stability in the country, the violence factor and all those things. The state president pushed hard and consistently for the Japanese now to look at South Africa as an investment."

The delegation was unsuccessful in attempts to secure a firm commitment on a direct air link between the two countries—which would have opened the way for South Africa to exploit the Japanese tourism market. Mr Miyazawa agreed in principle to the idea, but said it was still subject to further negotiation. The problem, the South Africans said, was that Japan's runways were already clogged with airlines, a physical rather than a political problem.

Mr. de Klerk urged the Japanese to accept the idea of South Africa as a gateway to the rest of Africa. Japan as one of the world's major economic powers had a moral obligation "not to walk away from Africa" and let Africans die of AIDS, poverty or starvation. South Africa saw itself as one of the major channels for investment-related aid to the continent. Japan had kick-started the economies of a number of countries on the Pacific Rim, and it could in the same way help South Africa to become the "Japan of southern Africa".

The South Africans said there had been a good rapport between Mr Miyazawa and Mr. de Klerk.

The SA [South Africa] leader had invited Mr Miyazawa to visit this country, and the Japanese had indicated there was no reason why this should not take place. Mr Miyazawa had shown an acute and well-informed interest in events in South Africa.

Attending the dinner that followed the talks was a member of a delegation from Keidanren Kaikan—an influential body representing major Japanese businesses—that recently visited South Africa. Indications were that he was "madly impressed" with what he saw here, reporters were told.

Says Visit Historical Opportunity

OW0306124792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT
03 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 KYODO—South African President F.W. de Klerk and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa agreed Wednesday to cooperate in promoting economic development of the Southern African region, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The officials said the agreement came during their talks at the prime minister's official residence.

De Klerk, the first South African president ever to visit Japan, arrived earlier Wednesday on a four-day visit.

Officials said Miyazawa also agreed to "consider in a forward-looking manner" De Klerk's request for a pact on air links between the two countries and an investment protection accord to promote Japanese investment in South Africa.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said progress is expected during the visit on setting up air links, but the investment pact is a much more distant issue.

Miyazawa was quoted as hailing De Klerk's efforts to dismantle apartheid.

The Japanese Government has responded to De Klerk's reforms by lifting most of its economic sanctions last year and resuming full diplomatic relations with the white-dominated government in January.

Officials quoted De Klerk as saying his visit represents an "historical opportunity" to promote bilateral relations.

Seeks Air Links, Investment

OW0406053492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0459 GMT
4 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan and South Africa agreed Thursday to start bilateral talks later this year on opening air routes between the two countries.

The agreement came in talks between Transport Minister Keiwa Okuda and South African President F.W. de Klerk, who arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday on a four-day visit.

Japan will propose in the planned talks, whose venue has yet to be decided, that the New Kansai International Airport, scheduled to open in 1994, be the Japanese link for the air routes.

The talks will also deal with a South African proposal on joint operations between its state-run airline, South African Airways, and Japanese airlines.

South Africa requested that charter services be allowed to operate between the two countries until an agreement is reached.

Japan and South Africa restored diplomatic ties in January.

Japanese aviation industry officials welcomed Thursday's developments, which they said will open the way for greater exchanges with African states.

In a separate 45 minute meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe, De Klerk strongly called for Japanese investment, ministry officials said.

He said Japan's involvement is desirable in pursuing "dynamic" development of the economies of Southern Africa, referring to the economic success attained by Japan and other Asian nations.

Watanabe promised to encourage Japanese investment on condition that Pretoria maintains liberal policies and does not provoke fears among Japanese entrepreneurs about public order and other issues, they said.

De Klerk said the prosperity of South Africa is essential for the economic development of the entire Southern African region, officials said.

Noting Japan's role in regional development in Asia, he said South Africa wants to play a similar role in its region.

Urges Purchase of More Goods

*OW0406053792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT
4 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—South African President F.W. de Klerk called on Japan Thursday to buy more goods from South Africa to help stabilize the South African economy.

De Klerk made the call in a 30-minute meeting at a Tokyo hotel with ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Tamiyuki Watanuki.

The South African president arrived in Japan Wednesday for six days of talks with Japanese political and business leaders.

Japanese officials quoted De Klerk as saying, "the economic prosperity and stability of South Africa will enable politics to be more stabilized."

Japan imported 240 billion yen worth of goods from South Africa in 1990, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

On South African domestic politics, De Klerk told Watanuki that the African National Congress (ANC) is aiming at becoming the "dominant" force in politics, the officials said.

He said major political forces in South Africa should share political power to stabilize multiracial democracy and to protect minorities in the country.

De Klerk also said he will make a "resolute" stand against the ANC if it launches a mass movement to demand more

concessions from the white minority government on political power sharing, according to the officials.

Over the past two years, De Klerk has moved to dismantle the apartheid system of legalized racial discrimination.

Whites and blacks have held five months of talks under the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa), to draft a constitution guaranteeing multiracial democracy.

The ANC has rejected the government's proposal at the talks for a blocking mechanism that the ANC says would give the whites a virtual veto under the proposed democratic constitution. The government says the mechanism would protect minority and regional rights.

De Klerk will leave for Singapore on Saturday at the end of his four-day official visit to Japan.

Loans Offered Brazil for Environmental Problems

*OW0306234292 Tokyo KYODO in English 2303 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—Japan is to offer a total of 99 billion yen in loans to Brazil to support the country's fight against environmental problems, Japanese Government sources said Thursday.

The money will be used for river improvements and two other projects, the sources said.

The yen loans follow an agreement on rescheduling Brazil's official external debts at a meeting of creditor nations in Paris in February, they said.

The decision on the 99 billion yen loan package will be conveyed to the Brazilian Government during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, which began Wednesday, the officials said.

On Tuesday, the Export-Import Bank of Japan announced a 300 million U.S. dollar loan package to Brazil—250 million dollars for private-sector development and 50 million dollars to combat industrial pollution.

Tokyo Plans To Reopen Trade Insurance for Iran

*OW0306144992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1428 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 (KYODO)—The government will soon resume underwriting medium- and long-term trade insurance covering industrial projects involving Iran, virtually suspended since the 1979 Islamic revolution, government officials said Wednesday.

The trade insurance scheme will be first applied to a project to build an ammonia-urea fertilizer plant in Iran by the autumn of 1994, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry officials said.

The project to be implemented by Tomen Corp. and Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd., both of Japan, and a

British company, will produce 500,000 tons of urea and 330,000 tons of ammonia annually for use in Iran, they said.

Under the insurance scheme administered by the ministry, the government reimburses Japanese exporters or other companies investing in foreign countries when payments fall in arrears due to political upheaval or a serious shortage of hard currency.

The resumption is expected to help spur Japanese investment in Iran, because insurance coverage makes exporters eligible for loans from the Export-Import Bank of Japan.

Short-term trade insurance for transactions with Iran was never halted.

House of Councillors Prepares To Vote on PKO

OW0406043592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0352 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—A House of Councillors committee will vote Thursday night to approve a bill to allow the dispatch of Japanese troops abroad for the first time in Japan's postwar history to join in United Nations peacekeeping operations [PKO], ruling party officials said.

After a final five-hour debate that began Thursday morning, the upper house Special Committee on International Peace and Cooperation will put the bill to a vote even if it continues to be opposed by the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), the officials of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said.

The LDP and two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), are eager to bring the bill to a vote at a plenary session of the opposition-controlled upper house on Friday, they said.

The two votes are needed to ensure the passage of the bill, which has been modified by the LDP and the two centrist parties and was submitted to the upper house panel Monday, before the current 150-day ordinary Diet session ends June 21.

Once the bill is passed by the upper house, it will be sent back to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives, which passed the original bill last December.

Under the amendment, prior approval by the Diet would be needed each time Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel were to participate in U.N. peacekeeping forces abroad.

It also would freeze temporarily SDF participation in peacekeeping operations that might involve military actions, and would have to be reviewed three years after its enactment.

With the upper house committee having debated the bill for 106 hours by Thursday, the longest-ever deliberation on a single subject in the upper chamber, the governing party and the two centrist opposition parties decided

Wednesday to bring the bill to a vote Thursday regardless of any objections from the SDP and the JCP, the officials said.

Meanwhile, SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe instructed his fellow Diet members at a meeting of the party's Central Executive Committee on Thursday to put up resistance and block the passage of the bill, they said.

Upper house members of the SDP are likely to besiege the chairman of the special committee, Shinichiro Shimojo, when the LDP moves to force through the bill, the officials said.

Vote Delayed

OW0406124592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—An ad hoc panel of the House of Councillors failed to vote early Thursday evening on an amended bill that would allow Japanese troops to join United Nations peacekeeping operations overseas.

The committee is expected to vote late Thursday night or early Friday morning, political parties said.

The committee went into a de facto break shortly before 5 P.M. Thursday after the largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, took exception to a clause in the bill allowing the Diet seven days to give prior approval to overseas missions for Japanese troops, officials said.

There are still more than two hours left for members of political parties to question at the committee, they said.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party, were originally set to vote on the bill in the committee around 5:30 P.M.

The three parties said they hoped to vote by midnight.

The parties said they also hope the entire upper house will vote on the bill in Friday's plenary session. After the plenary session the bill will be sent back to the House of Representatives, which passed it late last year before it was amended.

The legislation will pave the way for Japan to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops abroad on a non-training mission for the first time in its post-war history, except for the deployment last year of a minesweeping task force to the Persian Gulf.

The LDP, Komeito, and DSP submitted a modified bill to the committee Monday.

The amendment calls for the Diet to give prior approval to sending SDF personnel abroad to join UN peacekeeping operations.

It also includes a ban on SDF participation in peacekeeping operations that might involve military action.

To lift the ban, new legislation would be required, according to the amendment.

The bill must be reviewed three years after it is enacted, according to the legislation.

Earlier Thursday, SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe instructed his party's Diet members to put up a resistance and block passage of the bill.

Foreign Minister Watanabe Reportedly Has Tumor

OW0406073692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0727 GMT 04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4—A Japanese weekly magazine reported Thursday that Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe has a tumor near his pancreas, despite assertions by his family he is suffering from a gallstone and bile duct infection.

The weekly magazine SHUKAN BUNSHUN said in its June 11 issue the foreign minister is suffering from "a serious disease which people around Watanabe are trying to hide."

Watanabe was hospitalized Sunday with acute stomach pains.

The weekly quoted a senior staff member of Tokyo Women's Medical College hospital as saying the foreign minister received a detailed medical checkup in February.

"At the time, Watanabe was diagnosed as having a tumor near his pancreas," the unnamed staff member told SHUKAN BUNSHUN. He declined to say if the tumor was malignant or benign.

The staff member speculated that the tumor might have caused an inflammation in the biliary tract.

Watanabe's office was unavailable for comment on the SHUKAN BUNSHUN article.

Yoshimi Watanabe, the foreign minister's eldest son, told reporters Monday his father may undergo an operation next week.

The weekly is a sister publication of the monthly BUNGEI SHUNJU, whose expose about financial scandals drove then prime minister Kakuei Tanaka out of office in 1974.

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe died of pancreatic cancer last year, although his family and aides had long insisted he was suffering only from a gallstone.

Bill on Political Funding Controls Revised

OW0306122992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT 03 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 KYODO—Working-level officials of a council of the ruling and opposition parties agreed Wednesday to submit to the current Diet session a

revised bill aimed at tightening controls on fund-raising parties, council officials said.

The Political Fund Reform Council, headed by Yoshiro Mori of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), will approve the agreement on the revision of the existing political fund control law at a meeting next Tuesday, the officials said.

Under the revised bill, if a private organization collects more than 10 million yen from a party it holds, it will have to report the earnings to the Home Affairs Ministry.

The draft bill also restricts an individual or an organization to pay up to 1.5 million yen for the cost of such a party.

The ministry will make public the names of those who paid more than 1 million yen, the officials said.

Financial Market Reform Bills Scheduled for Jan

OW0306123092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1203 GMT 03 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 KYODO—A package of bills to improve efficiency and create sound competition in Japanese financial markets, which has been under debate since the mid-1980s, could come into force next January, government sources said Wednesday.

The package of bills to revise 16 financial laws was approved by the House of Representatives Finance Committee on Wednesday.

The legislation is now expected to be approved at a lower house plenary session Thursday and be sent later to the House of Councillors.

The largest-scale financial reform plan in Japan's postwar days then will likely pass the Diet sometime next week for implementation next January 1, the sources said.

The enactment will bring three major reforms in Japan's financial systems and industries.

The first change is that ordinary commercial banks, trust banks, and securities companies can enter each other's business through their subsidiaries.

Secondly, such specialized financial institutions as Japan's three long-term credit banks and a foreign exchange bank can convert themselves into ordinary commercial banks or merge with companies in different business fields.

The third change is to increase the variety of financial instruments. Beneficiary certificates for housing loan trusts will be accepted as securities, which both securities companies and banks will be given rights to handle.

The lower house committee also adopted supplementary resolutions for 10 bills aimed at improving the quality of services for small-lot users and making the pace of entering one another's turf gradual and prudent.

The comprehensive reforms in the nation's financial systems came under discussion in the mid-1980s to meet the increasing need to match its systems with international ones and to keep up with the global trend of deregulation.

The banking and securities industries were being urged to promote competition, improve services for customers, and provide a wider variety of financial products.

Healthy competition is expected to push down fees and commissions in such industries.

Industry analysts say concern exists in Japan's business world that the reforms might strengthen the power of banks over many industries.

With this in mind, the Finance Ministry is planning to maintain the so-called "fire wall" between banks and their securities subsidiaries by government and ministerial ordinances.

Securities units of banks also would not be allowed to do stockbroking business.

Rule Revision on Firms Holding Own Stock Urged

OW0406035292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0323 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—A subcommittee of the Judicial Affairs Division of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) decided Thursday to urge the Justice Ministry to study revision of a rule banning firms from acquiring their own stock, LDP sources said.

The party's Commercial Law Subcommittee, which is examining relaxation of such rules, plans to call for partial lifting of the ban on firms acquiring their own shares as long as such ownership does not affect the joint-stock company system, they said.

The subcommittee is expected to wait for the ministry's response and meet again following the nation's House of Councillors elections in July, the sources said.

It is then likely to push for revision of the law to allow partial lifting of the rule before the Diet opens its next ordinary session in January, they said.

Japan's commercial code in principle bans firms from acquiring and corporately owning their own stock.

It only allows such acquisition and ownership immediately after an acquisition has been cancelled due to the danger of insider trading.

Oil Imports Increase 36 Percent From Year Ago

OW2505082392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0717 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 KYODO—Japan's crude oil imports in April surged 36.0 percent over a year earlier

to 126.59 million barrels, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry reported Monday.

The largest supplier was the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with shipments totaling 31.9 million barrels, up 19.8 percent over the year before.

Saudi Arabia ranked second with 26.48 million barrels, up 21.1 percent, followed by Indonesia with 13.27 million barrels and Iran with 11.9 million barrels, the ministry said.

Imports from Oman gained 18.8 percent to 9.34 million barrels, it said.

Domestic sales of fuel oil gained 2.9 percent over the year before to 109.96 million barrels, posting the sixth consecutive year-on-year rise.

Mongolia

Intergovernmental Commission Meets in Ulaanbaatar

LD0106174592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1220 GMT 31 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 31 May—A Mongolian-Russian intergovernmental commission on cooperation in the commercial and economic sphere and in science and technology, the first in the history of bilateral relations, held its first plenary sitting today in the Mongolian capital.

The Russian side of the commission is headed by Valeriy Makharadze, deputy head of the government of the Russian Federation, who arrived here today from Moscow; the Mongolian side is headed by Choyjilsurengiyn Purevdorj, vice premier of the Mongolian Government. Before the sitting began, the members of the Russian delegation laid wreaths at the monument to Suhbaatar on Ulaanbaatar's central square.

In the opinion of the participants at the sitting, the adoption of coordinated decisions is being dictated by identical processes taking place in both countries in new economic conditions, while the transition to market relations is increasing the role of direct producers—industrial enterprises and agrarian farms. They said that the first round of talks passed in a spirit of frankness and equal responsibility, with account being taken of mutual interests.

Mongolia continues to give priority in cooperation to the countries of the CIS, first and foremost to Russia, which has declared it will stick to fulfilling the obligations undertaken by the USSR. The country's economy, which was previously almost 90 percent dependent on the CEMA and the USSR, is now undergoing a deep crisis.

The participants at the first sitting of the intergovernmental commission intend to sign final documents on Monday.

Premier Satisfied With Talks

LD0106175592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0441 GMT 1 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar June 1 TASS—Prime Minister Dashiyn Byambasuren of Mongolia has expressed satisfaction that the Mongolian-Russian inter-governmental commission on all-round cooperation, the first in the history of bilateral relations, began working. He made this statement at a meeting with the Russian governmental delegation led by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Makharadze here today.

Mongolian Deputy Prime Minister Choyjilsurengiyn Purevdorj, who heads the Mongolian side of the commission, attended the meeting.

Ulaanbaatar Introduces Bread Rationing

LD2605145292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1050 GMT 26 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 26 May—An unforeseen shortage of bread has prompted the city authorities in the Mongolian capital to introduce rationing of bread and bakery products. Henceforth a family of three will purchase no more than one unit of each type of baked goods every other day. The norm will be doubled for a family of up to eight persons. Larger families have received the right to four "small" family norms, the Ulaanbaatar newspaper ULAANBAATAR says today.

According to the Mongolian press, local self-government bodies in a number of other regions have already had to resort to this enforced measure. There are no reports as to when the temporary restrictions will end.

Ministry Regrets Recent Nuclear Test in China

LD2905102392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0900 GMT 29 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanjiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 29 TASS—The Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Relations has expressed regret over the recent nuclear test on the territory of neighboring China. The test was carried out at a time when Central Asia is facing the prospect of getting rid of nuclear weapons.

A complete termination of nuclear weapon tests everywhere meets the interests of global security and serves confidence building among nations. Mongolia will henceforth help common efforts aiming to end nuclear arms tests, eliminate all mass destruction weapons in the world, especially in Central Asia, the Mongolian Foreign Ministry said in a statement published by the national press today.

North Korea

Resuming Team Spirit Shows U.S. 'Criminal Plan'

SK0406102892 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1007 GMT 4 Jun 92

["Very Ill-Boding Situation"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 4 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today comments on the outcries of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities on the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. This is an intolerable challenge to all the Koreans and the world peace-loving people who desire peace and peaceful reunification of Korea, it states.

The analyst says:

The bellicose quarters of the United States and the South Korean authorities blare that they would resume the reckless "Team Spirit" manoeuvres against the trend of the times toward detente. This proves that they intend to bring the situation of the Korean peninsula back to what it was before the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation were adopted and rush headlong along the road of aggression and war.

Still more intolerable is the fact that the South Korean authorities mumbled about the "delay of reciprocal nuclear inspection of North and South" by the North when they declared the scheme to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

This is, indeed, a robber-like sophism to justify their anti-dialogue, anti-peace and anti-reunification crimes.

Facts prove that all the eloquence of the United States and the South Korean authorities about "peace", "unification" and the like is a downright hypocrisy and they have not abandoned their criminal plan to provoke a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

The Korean people will never tolerate and overlook the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, a preliminary war and a test nuclear war against the North.

The United States and the South Korean authorities must ponder over the matter and take a step to stop for good and all the "Team Spirit" war game which would seriously affect the North-South relations and bring the clouds of nuclear war over the Korean peninsula.

Reunification Group Warns Against Team Spirit

SK0406052592 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0424 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 4 (KCNA)—The secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in its Information No. 607 Wednesday warned that should the United States and the South Korean authorities resume such nuclear war exercises as

the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, they will be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

Recalling that the commander of the U.S. forces present in South Korea in a recent press interview revealed the fact that the United States is making preparations for the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises next year and the South Korean "prime minister" said that it was decided to "examine" the resumption of the exercises next year, the information noted. [sentence as received]

The outbursts of the U.S. war-thirsty element and the South Korean high-ranking official are meant to bring the situation on the Korean peninsula where there is a sign of detente back to that before the adoption of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation; it is a downright challenge to the Korean people who aspire after peace and reunification of the country.

The U.S. and South Korean warmaniacs claim that mutual nuclear inspection has not yet been made of the North and the South because of the North. The responsibility for it, however, entirely rests with the United States and the South Korean side. At the beck and call of the U.S. imperialists the South Korean side is deliberately delaying the solution of the problem, clamoring about "special inspection" and "inspection of ordinary military bases" which are not specified in the joint declaration on denuclearisation.

The United States and the South Korean authorities who have been delaying the nuclear inspection of the North and the South are taking issue with the North. This is just like a thief crying "stop thief".

The U.S. imperialists and their stooges had better forego the criminal move to bring the situation back to that before the adoption of the North-South agreement.

Kim Il-song Receives PRC Delegate, Art Troupe

SK0406092892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received commanding members of the art troupe of Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, China.

Sun Jiazheng, candidate member of the Communist Party of China [CPC] Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Jiangsu Provincial party committee who is leading the art troupe, and other commanding members of the troupe, attended the meeting.

Also present there were Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and vice president; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, vice premier of the Administration Council, and foreign minister; Comrade Han Song-yong, member of the WPK Central Committee Political

Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and Comrade Chang Chol, vice premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art.

Zheng Yi, ambassador extraordinary plenipotentiary of the PRC to our country, was on hand.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song held talks with the guests in a warm and amicable atmosphere.

'Brisk Movement' in Japan for Normalizing Ties

SK0306111092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 3 (KCNA)—A brisk movement is going on in Japan to demand an early opening of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

The general meeting of the Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship held in Tokyo in February last year elected its new officials including Shin Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe and other influential dietmen from the Liberal Democratic Party, the Social-Democratic Party, the Komei Party, the Democratic Socialist Party, the Social Democratic Federation, the Communist Party and independent dietmen.

Aomori and Osaka prefectural, Gifu city, Miyagi and Toyama prefectural Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship came into being and the existing organisations have been reinforced at local autonomous bodies.

There appeared the Gifu prefectural 100-men committee, the Ehime 100-men Committee for an Early Normalisation of Japan-DPRK Diplomatic Relations, Niigata, Saitama, Hyogo, Oita and Aichi prefectural people's councils for the promotion of the normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and many other organisations.

Such organisations embrace large numbers of Japanese people of various strata who accounted for 94 percent of the Japanese population by the end of March this year.

Local assemblies and many organisations of Japan continue adopting resolutions demanding an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

As of mid-May, resolutions were adopted by local autonomous assemblies—Tokyo metropolis, Hokkaido and 40 prefectures, 546 cities and wards, 1,280 chos and 348 muras—2,216 all told.

Political parties and organisations have launched various activities including meetings, forums, lectures and

signature campaigns in demand of an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations. More than 2,500 meetings, forums and lectures were organized last year alone.

Israeli Air Raids on Lebanon Condemned

SK0406055992 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0444 GMT 4 Jun 92

["Sovereignty of Lebanon Must Be Respected"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 4 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today brands Israeli air raids on southern Lebanon as an infringement on the sovereignty of Lebanon, a deliberate act abusing territorial integrity and a threat to Mideast peace and security.

The analyst says:

The air raids on southern Lebanon has made the situation of the Middle East more strained and laid a new hurdle in the way of the Mideast peace talks.

It is Israel that threatens the peace of the Middle East.

Israel should stop at once its aggression and intervention in Lebanon and other Arab countries and fulfil unconditionally the U.N. resolution on its withdrawal from the occupied areas.

If the Arab countries unite in the struggle to defend Arabic sovereignty and national dignity, the demand of the Arab people for the removal of tensions in the Middle East and for an independent and peaceful life will certainly be realized.

Premier's Message Warns South To Obey Agreement

SK0406110892 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1046 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 4 (KCNA)—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who is head of the delegation of the North side to the inter-Korean high level talks, in a telephone message sent today to Chong Won-sik, South Korean "prime minister" who is chief delegate of the delegation of the South side, said: Your side ought to bear deep in mind that the North-South agreement and the joint declaration signed before the nation lay common legal obligations which should be most deeply respected and most thoroughly fulfilled and should no more commit such practices as shirking responsibility to implement them or stepping back from them.

In the message the premier called the South side to task for its wrong act of unilaterally violating the agreement between the sides, recalling that the North-South relations are now likely to return to the days of distrust and confrontation in contravention of the basic spirit of the

agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange and the joint declaration on denuclearization and the aspiration of all the fellow countrymen.

The telephone message said that sub-committees are to work out annexed agreements for the implementation of the North-South agreement and inaugurate joint committees within three months after the agreement was effectuated, but the South side declined to put forward drafts of annexed agreement and thus joint committees are in such an abnormal state that they are not able to operate.

The South side is now taking the road of deliberately aggravating North-South relations by kicking up a new row over our nuclear issue which poses no problem, the telephone message pointed out, and went on:

Your side should not be jealous of the smooth inspection of us by the International Atomic Energy Agency and not be displeased with the improvement of relations between us and the United States and between us and Japan.

Moreover, your side should not play a sinister political game to save the unstable situation in South Korea or to create a favorable condition for the forthcoming "elections" by delaying the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation and aggravating North-South relations to render the situation of the country strained.

In the telephone message Yon Hyong-muk reminded the South side that we cannot but direct attention to the fact that even the prospect of the exchange of visiting groups of old parents on August 15 which will be the first gift for the nation as a result of the implementation of the agreement may be gloomy since the South side openly stated that no progress of the North-South agreement can be expected.

For the present, your side should approach subcommittee meetings for the discussion of annexed agreement with a sincere stand and attitude for true reconciliation, cooperation and reunification and accede to our side's proposal to hold the sixth meeting of the North-South Nuclear Control Joint Committee on June 16, stressed the message.

South Called 'Insincere' in Nuclear Talks

SK0306150192 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0024 GMT 2 Jun 92

[NODONG SINMUN 2 June special article: "Why Have Joint Nuclear Control Commission Meetings Been Thrown Into a Slump?"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula must be resolved.

Two months have passed since the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] was officially formed. The North-South JNCC is a controlling organ

and executive organ for implementing the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, as its title indicates.

According to the agreement between the two sides, the JNCC was to adopt a necessary document for verification of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula within a two-month period after the first meeting, and to begin the inspection within 20 days after the document was adopted. However, the JNCC failed to agree on and adopt a necessary document for the verification of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, although it is past the two months agreed on by both sides. As a result, the JNCC is not working properly.

Why, then, has the work of the JNCC been thrown into a slump? This is entirely because of the undisguised evasive and delaying tactics of the South side, which hates the implementation of the joint declaration. This was clearly proven by the South side's insincere attitude in the JNCC meetings up to the present.

During the period from the North-South JNCC's formation to the present, JNCC meetings were held between the two sides on five occasions, and members' contacts were held on many occasions. Because contacts on many occasions were held, documents of agreement and inspection regulations should have been sufficiently formulated. However, this was not possible because of the South side's persistent delaying tactics.

First of all, the South side is not yet ready to bring forward a draft document on the implementation of the joint declaration on denuclearization but is intentionally creating obstacles in the way of its adoption. Our side's consistent position is to adopt a draft agreement on the implementation of the joint declaration at an early date.

In view of both sides' demand in the agreement and of the practical demand for denuclearization under the present North-South relations, our side's assertion is just.

Paragraph 1 in Article 2 of the agreement on the formation and operation of the North-South JNCC provides for the adoption of annexed documents according to the discussion of the issues for implementing the joint declaration.

The joint declaration stipulates only the principled position and direction for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Therefore, in order to implement the joint declaration, this declaration should be defined in a more concrete way. Only by so doing can the JNCC carry out the function of control and execution satisfactorily.

Because the two sides reached an agreement after persistent long-term mutual misunderstanding and distrust, detailed measures should be formulated for implementing the joint declaration. Only by so doing can the two sides promote mutual understanding and trust. However, the South side said that since it made a nuclear nonexistence declaration, the agreement is not necessary, that since the provisions in the joint declaration are obligatory, these provisions can be implemented, and

that it is not necessary to make more agreements. This is indeed an unreasonable claim.

Even if the content of the joint declaration is obligatory, one cannot wash away the other side's suspicion only by one's unilateral implementation of the contents. Therefore, this should be implemented under the JNCC's control. This is a demand of the agreement.

It is clear to everyone that to implement the joint declaration, an agreement stipulating concrete measures for implementation is necessary. This notwithstanding, the South side frantically opposed the adoption of an agreement. Thus, both sides failed to begin the discussion of the issue.

The South side's insincere attitude toward inspection regulations is one of the basic obstacles. The basic issue in formulating nuclear inspection regulations is the issue of inspection sites and an inspection regime.

In connection with this, our side proposed that both sides conduct a total and simultaneous inspection on the principle of simultaneously dispelling doubts. Our side's claim is that, in accordance with the actual and objective reality of inveterate misunderstanding and distrust remaining between the North and the South, the inspection sites should be decided on the principle of simultaneously dispelling both sides' doubts and that all nuclear sites should be simultaneously inspected. Thus, our side's claim is a very aboveboard proposal. In addition, our side's claim entirely conforms to both sides' agreement. Our side's claim is also a just proposal, which makes it possible to basically remove the danger of a nuclear war in our country and to thoroughly realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

However, the South side refused our side's principled and reasonable proposal. Instead, it has stubbornly insisted on an inspection of equal numbers, which is devoid of impartiality and reasonableness, and on a special inspection and inspection of ordinary military bases, which are not stipulated in the agreement. The South side has thereby created artificial difficulties, delaying the discussion of problems. This is intended to prevent inspection of the U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons by replacing nuclear bases with ordinary military bases.

The key to realizing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is to remove the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from South Korea. The issue of nuclear weapons in our country originated from the U.S. introduction of nuclear weapons into South Korea. Actually, the nuclear danger, which threatens the fate of the nation, comes from the introduction of the U.S. nuclear weapons. It is known to everyone that approximately 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons have been brought in and deployed in South Korea. Even though the South Korean ruler declared the absence of nuclear weapons, the United States, the master of the nuclear weapons, is denying the declaration. Even though there has been a report about the introduction of nuclear weapons into

South Korea, there has been no report about the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from South Korea.

In the meantime, the fact that there is an underground U.S. nuclear weapons depot in South Korea was revealed by the man who was in charge of building it. This causes further doubts among the people over nuclear weapons in South Korea. Such being the case, it is extremely natural that the underground U.S. nuclear weapons depot be verified through inspection and that a measure for denuclearization be taken. Therefore, the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea must be the core in the list of inspection objects to verify denuclearization.

If the South side's declaration on the absence of nuclear weapons is true and if its will for denuclearization is unshakable, there is no reason why the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases should be excluded from the list of inspection objects. There are no grounds for the South side as a dialogue partner to ignore both sides' agreement, under which nuclear facilities, nuclear materials, and nuclear weapons and nuclear bases, which are suspected, shall be included in the list of inspection objects.

Nonetheless, the South side adheres to a so-called simultaneous inspection and special inspection in which the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases are excluded from the list of inspection objects. This is a tactic to avoid implementing the joint declaration. Furthermore this is a deliberate maneuver not aimed at realizing denuclearization.

The South side should be duly responsible for the unreasonable act of not producing an agreement and inspection regulations, which both sides promised to the fellow countrymen and the world, and of preventing the JNCC from discharging its mission.

The South side's act in bringing the work of JNCC to a deadlock is by no means fortuitous. This is motivated by its criminal aim to avoid and delay the implementation of the joint declaration by stalling for time and to reduce the joint declaration itself to a mere sheet of paper. In April, before the seventh round of the North-South high-level talks was held, the South side's spokesman openly said that the issue of nuclear inspection is no less than a bygone fact. This is a clear evidence.

Why do the South Korean authorities object to implementing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, even after they declared it before the entire fellow countrymen with us? The South Korean authorities' obstructive moves are attributable to pressure from the United States, which does not like peace and Korea's reunification. The obstructive moves are also attributable to the invariable flunkeyist treacherous idea of depending on outside forces and confrontation of the South Korean authorities, who, keeping the U.S. nuclear weapons hidden in South Korea, want to maintain their colonial dictatorial power under the protection of the

U.S. nuclear weapons and who want to swallow fellow countrymen with the help of foreign forces.

All facts show that unless the South Korean authorities abandon the anachronistic idea of depending on outside forces, the prospects for implementing the joint denuclearization of the Korean peninsula are not bright.

Removing the danger of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula as soon as possible and achieving a durable peace and peaceful reunification are the unanimous demands of the times and nation and an urgent task.

If the South Korean authorities ignore this demand and object to denuclearizing the Korean peninsula by persistently adhering to a deliberate delaying tactic, [words indistinct] they cannot escape from the fellow countrymen's curse and denunciation.

The South Korean authorities should give up the idea of depending on outside forces against the nation and reunification. They should not conduct the act of creating a stumbling block to implementing the joint declaration of denuclearization.

Red Cross Urges Repatriation of Yi In-mo

*SK0206004192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1536 GMT 1 Jun 92*

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today released a statement in connection with the fact that the repatriation of old man Yi In-mo, former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, has not yet been realised despite of the strong demand of the people at home and abroad.

Either from the Red Cross humanitarian point of view or from the compatriotic point of view, it is only too natural to return old man Yi In-mo, who should have been sent back as a war correspondent at the time when POWs were exchanged right after the war, to his native place where his wife and daughter are waiting for him, the statement says, and continues:

Furthermore, as the North and the South agreed upon the exchange of the visiting groups of old parents on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the August 15 national liberation this year, his repatriation is an urgent matter that brooks no further delay.

In fact, the repatriation of old man Yi is a most pressing and humanitarian matter that is incomparable with the question of any separated family.

Old man Yi is suffering troubles as a cripple, his ribs and leg broken during tortures in prison and, still worse, he was attacked by cerebral haemorrhage and he is now helpless.

As he said, his remaining days are numbering.

Sending back home the old man who spent most of his whole life in prison, suffering troubles and is living a life for

the rest his days is the most urgent question that should be solved before any other humanitarian questions.

The Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from the humanitarian point of view, sent a letter to the South Korean Red Cross in October last year, urging it to send him back, and other organisations of the North repeatedly demanded his repatriation.

Old man Yi himself sent a letter to the president of the International Red Cross a few day ago, demanding it to help him return home.

This just demand, however, has not been realized and our proposal to send a consolation group to South Korea for a visit to him in sickbed was turned down.

Worse still, the South Korean authorities unhesitatingly committed an outrage of walking away him by mobilizing combat police when he was trying to meet with members of the delegation of our side, which has been to Seoul to participate in the seventh inter-Korean high-level talks, and hear news of his wife and daughter.

The Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK bitterly denounces the act of persecuting in prison and arresting again old man Yi In-mo, who should have been sent back long ago, as an act entirely contrary to humanitarianism.

We strongly demand that the South Korean Red Cross and authorities unconditionally and immediately send back old man Yi helpless in sickness to the northern half of the country where his wife, daughter and family and relatives live.

We take this opportunity to express the belief that Red Cross organisations of all the countries and international organisations which defend human rights and value humanitarianism will conduct a powerful international supporting movement for the repatriation of old man Yi to the northern half of the country where his wife and daughter live.

South National Security Law 'Insults' Agreement

*SK0306112192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1017 GMT 3 Jun 92*

["They Must Not Insult North-South Agreement"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 3 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today hits hard at the outpourings of the South Korean authorities revealing their intention to keep the notorious "National Security Law," insulting the North-South agreement.

The South Korean "justice minister" declared recently that the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South was no more than a "joint statement" or a

"gentlemen's agreement" not binding on any side and "there is no need to change the National Security Law" on account of its adoption.

He even contended that this "law" which defines the North as an "anti-state organisation" is "alien from" the adoption of the North-South agreement.

This is an insult to the North-South agreement reflecting the nation's desire for reunification and an intolerable challenge to the 70 million compatriots who thirstily aspire after reunification.

It is preposterous for the South Korean authorities to argue that the "National Security Law" is "alien from" the adoption of the North-South agreement.

As the whole world knows, the South Korean "National Security Law" is a legacy of the cold war era when anti-communism and confrontation were fanned up and fascist rule held sway.

It is out of question to implement the North-South agreement which comprehensively lays down the question of North-South reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation and exchange, with this notorious anti-national, anti-reunification "law" left intact.

The "manifestation of the stand" of the South Korean authorities toward this "law" cannot be construed otherwise than the manifestation of their stand not to implement the North-South agreement.

The South Korean authorities, looking squarely at the trend of the times, must tear up the notorious "National Security Law" right away as the people demand and choose to honestly implement the North-South agreement carrying the nation's will for reunification.

South Arrest of Students Called 'Repressive'

*SK0406050592 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0439 GMT 4 Jun 92*

["Reckless Fascist Folly"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 4 (KCNA)—The South Korean "Supreme Prosecutor General's Office" issued a repressive order to its local organs to arrest quickly and punish 41 students including Tae Chae-chun, chairman of the General Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop), kicking up a hysterical row of crack-down upon them.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

The military fascist clique charge them with having a North-South political consultative meeting with representatives of the Korean Student Committee in the North through the phone and publishing a joint resolution reaffirming the formula of reunification through a confederacy and demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea at the inaugural meeting of the sixth-term Chondaehyop.

The South Korean authorities, far from supporting and assisting the students in their righteous patriotic activities for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, criminalise and suppress them. This is an unpardonable anti-national, anti-reunification criminal act.

The repressive campaign of the South Korean rulers is another fascist offensive against Chondaebyop which is always taking the van of the movement for independence, democracy and reunification in South Korea.

The renewed repression of Chondaebyop by the South Korean rulers is a premeditated political crack-down to stage the "election" without a hitch and extend the military fascist dictatorial "regime" of the "Democratic Liberal Party" by stifling the righteous action of the students beforehand.

The South Korean authorities should look squarely at the trend of the times and promptly stop their repressive campaign against the students.

South Korea

Policy Meeting With U.S. on Nuclear Issues Set

SK0406040292 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
4 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] The ROK and the United States will hold a security-policy meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 8 to 9 June, in order to arrange both countries' positions on overall relations with North Korea, including the North Korean nuclear issue.

From the U.S. side, Douglas Paal, special assistant to the president for national security affairs, and Desaix Anderson, deputy assistant secretary of the State Department will attend the meeting. From the ROK side, Pan Ki-mun, vice chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission, and an official of the Ministry of National Defense will also attend the meeting.

A diplomatic source said that "the U.S. Government proposed to the ROK that a security-policy meeting should be held along with the scheduled pre-ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting." He added "the United States asked the ROK side to upgrade the level of those attending the meeting and the ROK side accepted the U.S. request."

The source noted that "the ROK and the United States share the same opinion that even though it takes time to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, it is necessary to conduct a complete and thorough North-South joint nuclear inspection, which includes military bases, based on 'mutuality' and 'symmetry'." He predicted that "both countries will broadly discuss North Korea's biochemical weapons as well as controlling its missile exports. They will also discuss the North Korean nuclear issue."

He added that "the ROK and the United States are considering various methods, including a process to

force North Korea to accept North-South joint inspection and a method for improving U.S.-North Korean relations on the condition that North Korea resolves the nuclear issue."

U.S. Links Inspections to Better DPRK Ties

SK0406012492 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
3 June 92 p 1

[Article by Washington correspondent Nam Chan-sun]

[Text] The United States notified Pyongyang that, if North Korea rejects North-South mutual inspection and challenge inspection of nuclear facilities, it is impossible to improve North Korean-U.S. relations and imposing international sanctions on North Korea cannot be excluded.

On 2 June, a U.S. State Department official revealed that, shortly after North-South [Joint] Nuclear Control Commission negotiations abruptly ended on 27 May, political counselors of the U.S. Embassy and North Korean Embassy in Beijing held their first contact on 1 June. He said that at the contact, the United States conveyed to North Korea its stance on the nuclear issue.

A diplomatic source in Washington said: "At the contact, the U.S. side stressed that, even though International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] nuclear inspection is important, it is more urgent to conduct mutual inspection and challenge inspection by rapidly setting up such systems of inspection through the North-South agreement." He added: "The United States clearly noted the fact that, if North Korea rejects mutual inspection and challenge inspection, it is impossible to improve North Korea-U.S. relations."

In addition, the U.S. side revealed that the IAEA's inspection cannot dispel international doubts about North Korea's development of nuclear weapons. The U.S. side emphasized that if North Korea continues to reject mutual inspection and challenge inspection, international sanctions may be imposed on North Korea.

North Korea, claiming it is sincerely accepting the IAEA's inspection, maintained a negative attitude toward mutual inspection and challenge inspection.

On the same day, the U.S. State Department said in a commentary that "if Pyongyang dissipates U.S. doubt about nuclear weapons and if the IAEA's inspection and the North-South mutual inspection are sincerely conducted, the United States will be ready to seek normal relations through regular policymaker-level dialogue."

Stressing that "the United States regards IAEA inspection and reliable North-South mutual inspection as an essential guarantee to prevent the danger of nuclear proliferation on the Korean peninsula," the commentary also noted that "this will be a foundation for building trust and reducing arms between the North and South."

Other diplomatic sources in Washington predict that "it will take time for North Korea to accept mutual and challenge inspection because of the situation at home and abroad; however, it cannot but accept mutual inspection and challenge inspection after all." He added that "at present, attention is focused on the IAEA council, which will report about the outcome of the IAEA's inspection on 13 June."

This North Korean-U.S. contact was held at the request of the North Korean side. The contact is the 23d counselors' contact in Beijing.

Navy Repels PRC Boats in Territorial Waters

*SK0306121192 Seoul YONHAP in English 1127 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Mokpo, South Korea, June 3 (YONHAP)—Some 50 Chinese fishing boats were chased off from South Korean territorial waters off Anma-do island near here early Thursday [as received] evening, local maritime police said.

The Chinese vessels, however, were still staying in the nearby open seas, standing face to face with some Korean police patrol boats as of 7 p.m., police said.

The Chinese boats had engaged in illegal fishing operation at a point about 13 miles west of the island for a day in blatant violation of South Korean territorial waters until 2 p.m. Thursday when a flotilla of police and naval patrol boats scrambled to challenge them.

Police said they would seize outright the Chinese fishing boats should they encroach upon the Korean waters again.

PRC Proposes To Hold Maritime Talks

*SK0406082492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0746 GMT
4 Jun 92*

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (YONHAP)—China recently proposed to South Korea that they open bilateral maritime transportation talks, a source at the Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said Thursday.

The Chinese trade mission in Seoul made the proposal to KMPA May 30, he said.

China suggested that, in absence of formal relations between the two countries, the talks be between private organizations and that working-level talks precede a formal meeting.

The offer was a welcome policy change by China, which in the past made no response to Korea's repeated calls for maritime talks, the source said.

KMPA told China the talks were possible only after September as Korea-U.S. and Korea-EC maritime talks are scheduled for July and August.

Prior to making the proposal, China called for complete liberalization of maritime transport markets between the two countries.

KMPA opted for maritime talks first, reasoning that conditions were not good for ensuring fair operation of Korean vessels in Chinese harbors.

Government To Halt Exchanges With Yugoslavia

*SK0406075192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0739 GMT
4 Jun 92*

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea tentatively agreed Thursday to halt all personnel and economic exchanges with Yugoslavia in compliance with last week's U.N. resolution.

Officials met at the Foreign Ministry and decided to draw up detailed plans as soon as possible.

The government already took measures to stop Korean students going to Yugoslavia to study. Some universities, including Kyonghui, are delaying agreements to establish sisterhood ties with colleges there, officials said.

The government will halt any investment activities and is soon to stop trade with Yugoslavia. Korea exported 45 million U.S. dollars worth of products to the East European country last year.

Economics Minister Meets German Leaders

*SK0306055892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0249 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Bonn, June 2 (YONHAP)—South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu had a series of talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other senior German officials Tuesday on issues concerning bilateral economic cooperation and other issues.

Choe and Kohl agreed that they would make a concerted effort for businesses of the two countries to jointly branch into former East Germany and the Asian region, including Korea, through joint ventures.

The two also agreed to let working-level officials of the two countries decide the details.

Kohl, pointing to closer cooperation among Korean and German businesses, welcomed any South Korean bid for advancing into former East German provinces.

The chancellor also said cooperation among Korean and German firms in Korea and other Asian nations would be helpful to each other, adding that mutual cooperation would, more than anything else, be bright in science and technology-related fields.

In particular, Kohl expressed a keen interest in having German companies participate in Korea's high-speed railroad project.

German businessmen increasingly wanted to participate and the German Government was urging them on, Kohl said.

In reply, Choe said it was desirable for Korean and German companies to form joint ventures on a complementary basis to participate in a variety of projects, including the high-speed railway.

The rail project was being scrutinized by a group of German, French and Japanese specialists, and contracts would be awarded in accordance with fair bidding procedures, Choe said.

Choe earlier met other German Government officials and asked them to help Korea retain its generalized system of preferences (GSP) benefits next year.

Choe, on a European tour, will return home in the middle of the month.

Minister Urges Closer Trade Ties With EC

SK0206040392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT
2 Jun 92

[Text] Brussels, June 1 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the European Community (EC) have agreed to expand trade, joint investment and technical cooperation and to take joint steps concerning loans to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Korean officials said here Monday.

Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu and EC Commission Vice President Frans Andriessen met here Monday afternoon and decided to work out detailed methods of promoting cooperative ties in Korea-EC high-level consultations at the ministerial level to be held here in November.

Choe, noting that EC was Korea's third largest export market, said greater cooperation was needed in the fields of joint investment and technical exchange and that his government would actively support Korean firms' advancement into the EC.

Andriessen said he hoped the November high-level talks would produce effective steps to upgrade cooperative ties.

Korean officials accompanying Choe said Korean firms, under their government's drive to encourage investment overseas, would be allowed to lease real estate abroad and financial institutions would be permitted to set up subsidiaries abroad to strengthen financial support for Korean companies there.

Choe, citing the swelling anti-dumping suits filed against Korean goods in the EC, asked Andriessen to ease restrictions on imports from Korea. The EC official said he would make efforts to dissipate the notion that Korean goods were the main target of anti-dumping suits.

The two officials agreed that the two sides should take joint steps concerning economic assistance to the CIS.

Earlier in the day, Choe, who also is economic planning minister, met with Willy de Clerc, chairman of the European Parliament's committee on external economic relations, and discussed the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks and Korea-EC economic cooperation.

De Clerc said EC-U.S. negotiations over the common agricultural policy (CAP) had turned out unsatisfactory and that the Uruguay Round talks could be settled sometime next year after a political statement comes out this year.

Choe asked for the EC's continuous awarding of generalized system of preferences (GSP) benefits to Korea, saying Korea's current economic difficulties were likely to be prolonged for a few more years.

De Clerc said the European Parliament would positively accept GSP favors for Korea if the EC Commission decided to grant them further.

Siberia Considered for Industrial Complex

SK0406084492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0820 GMT
4 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (YONHAP)—The government and private industry are undertaking a joint feasibility study for the establishment of an industrial complex in the maritime province of Siberia, Vice Economic Planning Minister Han Kap-su said Thursday.

Han told reporters the on-site survey, which began May 31 and is to end June 7, was being conducted mostly by private industry.

It is a follow-up study to the first study, undertaken by the Commerce and Industry Ministry, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. and other governmental agencies in April, Han said.

The South Korean Government hopes to help private industry build the industrial park on a 3 million-square-meter area in a local free economic zone in the maritime province, taking advantage of its geographical proximity and cheap labor, Han said.

He denied earlier press reports that the Korean Government was promoting the establishment of a "Korean special economic zone" or a "Korean autonomous region" in Siberia by resettling Korean-Russians now residing in central Asia of the former Soviet Union. At that time, the Russian Government was reported to be opposing such a plan.

It was a false report, Han said, adding that the reports could have misinterpreted the current efforts to form the industrial complex.

A team of 20 officials from private industry, led by Chang Chi-hyok, chairman of Kohap Co., was undertaking detailed studies on conditions for the construction of plants, support facilities, manpower and supplies of raw materials, Han said.

The government planned to proceed cautiously with the construction of the industrial complex if the feasibility study team came up with a favorable result, he said. The government would also have to study legal and systematic aspects of the proposed zone.

Han said the proposed plan was similar to ones being contemplated for Tianjin, China, and Najin and Sonbong, North Korea. As such, there were no plans to resettle Korean-Russians from central Asia or anywhere else in Russia, Han added.

The proposed venture also does not have any connection with the loans or other forms of economic cooperation South Korea has promised to the former Soviet Union, Han said.

Russia's far eastern coastal region covers 166,000 square kilometers with the population of some 2.28 million, including 11,000 ethnic Koreans. Major cities of the region are the provincial capital of Vladivostok and Nakhodka.

New Minister Speaks on Nation's Role in IAEA

SK0406082692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea's role in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy, Chong Kun-mo, Korea's first ambassador to the IAEA, said Thursday.

He hoped to personally review the agency's nuclear inspection report on North Korea, due out June 15, he said.

Chong, a 53-year-old former science and technology minister, is ambassador to the IAEA to handle scientific and cooperation issues.

"My responsibility at the IAEA is as a nuclear scientist," he told a news conference following his appointment Thursday.

Chong's ties with the IAEA go back to 1989, when he served a year on the agency's General Assembly. South Korea is currently on the agency's Board of Governors.

On IAEA Director-General Hans Blix's report after his North Korean visit, Chong said he personally believed that the Yongbyon facility North Korea claims to be a radiochemical laboratory was too large to be just that.

"The Iraqi experience was a valuable lesson for the IAEA," the ambassador said, referring to the discovery of much more advanced nuclear arms development capability than the IAEA suspected.

"This is why North Korea must accept inter-Korean nuclear inspection on top of IAEA inspection," he said.

While nuclear inspection and non-proliferation are political issues, his responsibility as ambassador is to ensure that atomic energy is used for peaceful purposes, Chong told reporters.

South Korea is ninth in the world in nuclear energy generation capability, he said.

"I was accosted by other nations while I was president of the IAEA General Assembly to share this technology," he said. "Now South Korea can do so. If North Korea wants to exchange knowledge and information on peaceful use of nuclear power, South Korea is ready to comply any time."

The global focus on nuclear power will increase for environmental reasons, he predicted.

"In order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, the world cannot but resort to atomic power," Chong said.

North Premier Sends Message on Nuclear Talks

SK0406123392 Seoul YONHAP in English 1217 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (YONHAP)—North Korea's Premier Yon Hyong-muk, denouncing the South for "intensifying South-North confrontation," warned Thursday that the future of the projected exchange of hometown visitors "may be beclouded."

"We cannot but pay attention to the fact that the future of the planned exchange of hometown visitors may become beclouded in a circumstance in which the South is intensifying South-North confrontation," Yon said.

In a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart, Chong Won-sik, the northern premier charged that "the South makes false allegation that a Joint Nuclear Control Commission meeting broke up even though it did not actually break up and asserts that no progress can be expected of the basic South-North agreement."

Yon's message was in reply to Chong's recent telephone message in which the South called on the North to agree to early inter-Korean nuclear inspections.

"We cannot but be deeply concerned about your side's improper deeds and words timed with the start of an inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] of our nuclear installations," said Yon.

He then said, "your side should not be jealous of the smooth IAEA inspection and should not feel uneasy about improving relations between us and the United States and between us and Japan."

Yon said it was hardly understandable for the South to "raise a nuclear fuss even by drawing in the United States and Japan, to assert that the Team Spirit training exercise would be resumed, and to argue that there would be no progress in the South-North agreement."

Meanwhile, a government official, commenting on Yon's message, said that although the message was intended to shift blame for a delay in nuclear inspections to the South, the message could be taken to suggest that the North, nevertheless, would retain the frame of the South-North talks.

The message indicated they didn't mean to torpedo the exchange of hometown visitors but they merely wanted to serve a "warning" to "the South's dialogue posture," the official said.

He noted that they used roundabout expressions without setting forth any prerequisites to the implementation of the hometown visiting program.

Prime Minister Cites World 'Pressure' on North

*SK0306130692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0833 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Chunchon, June 3 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Chong Won-sik said Wednesday that international pressure would force North Korea to moderate its stand on the nuclear arms issue.

"Though the inter-Korean nuclear talks have broken up, North Korea will have to change its nuclear posture in the long run as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and all major powers are applying pressure to North Korea," Chong said.

The premier made the remarks in a "dialogue with the people" meeting at the Kangwon Province prosecutor's office in Chunchon.

Despite a recent series of provocative acts by the North, the government would continue to strive to expand opportunities for separated family members to visit their hometowns, he said.

Chong reiterated the government stand that without mutual nuclear inspections it would be difficult for the South to engage in substantial economic exchanges with North Korea.

The meeting was attended by Information Minister Choe Chang-yun, Vice Home Minister Choe In-ki and some 200 leading figures in the area.

Comments by North Official on Nuclear Talks Cited

*SK0306142792 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
1 Jun 92 p 5*

[Article from "Reporter's Eye" column by Nam Chan-sun: "Rigid Attitude by North Korean Representative During News Conference on Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] On the afternoon of 30 May at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, discussions were held for about an hour between Kim Pyong-hong, vice director of the DPRK Institute of Disarmament and Peace who is visiting the United States, and ROK correspondents on the nuclear inspection issue. Vice Director Kim was participating in the news conference after attending a three-day academic seminar held for the eighth time and jointly hosted by the East Asian Affairs Institute of George Washington University and Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN under the title, "Asia and the Pacific in the Structurally Changed Era."

In this news conference most of the reporters were ROK correspondents. After explaining the content of his speech, which was mainly on the need to achieve reunification through the confederal system, given at the seminar, Vice Director Kim answered questions from reporters.

First of all he insisted that mistrust of North Korea must be dissolved. He stated that the reason for the stalemate in the nuclear negotiations is that the South side does not have faith in its fellow countrymen and is causing problems. He looked very displeased when reporters asked questions that seemed to show misgivings about North Korea's attitude. Vice Director Kim said: "What more is there to say, even after we have stated that we are not producing nuclear weapons? Also, why is the South side making preposterous proposals, such as that inspection of military facilities must be carried out?" In other words the North side was very active and offensive when it demanded that the other side have faith in it. However, the North side showed absolutely no interest in the problem of showing initiative in trying to give the other side faith in it.

It was the same when answering other questions. When a reporter said that the United States is expressing new interest in North Korea's human rights problem, it seemed that Vice Director Kim was indirectly pointing out the Los Angeles riot by saying: "As there is a saying that one should wipe one's own nose, the United States is in no position to talk about our human rights problem."

When reporters continued to ask questions about North Korea's nuclear policy, Vice Director Kim occasionally flushed with anger and even raised his voice.

There would have been no other choice for Vice Director Kim, who said that it was his first visit to the United States, than to strongly defend North Korea's position. However, his attitude at the news conference was too rigid and narrow-minded.

Government To Pursue Economic Stabilization

*SK0306062792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Seoul, June 3 (YONHAP)—The government will consistently pursue an economic stabilization policy based on stringent total money supply, control of private consumption and a cooling down of the construction market in the latter half of the year, Economic Planning Board (EPB) officials said Wednesday.

Economic growth would be tied at 7 percent, consumer price hikes would be curbed at 8 percent and the international balance of payments deficit would not exceed 8 billion U.S. dollars, the officials said.

Efforts will be made to prevent the presidential elections in December from disrupting economic stability.

The government's policy to stabilize the economy and to strengthen industrial competitiveness had brought positive results but there were still destabilizing factors such as fast-growing domestic demand, the officials said.

"There will be no need to revise the government's stabilization policy in the latter half of this year. The government will map out plans in a way supplementing those carried out in the first half," one official said.

Total money supply growth would be curbed at 18.5 percent and the government would follow a flexible money supply policy on a monthly and quarterly basis, reflecting changes in the economic situation, the officials said.

The government will extend the restriction on construction of commercial buildings from the original deadline of the end of June to the end of this year, except for new

towns around Seoul. It will see to it that the housing supply for this year does not go beyond 500,000 units.

To uproot real estate speculation, the government will increase the composite land tax and the tax on excessive profits from land transactions, and will survey family house ownership by linking the computerized directory of house owners with the resident registration network.

Support for exporting companies will be enhanced and measures will be worked out to encourage facility investment in the semiconductor, automobile and other strategic industries.

Special loans of 250 billion won will be given to small- and medium-sized firms, which will also be given tax favors.

The government will announce its economic policies for the second half of the year late this month, after inter-ministerial consultations and endorsement by economic ministers.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Diplomacy for Disputed Island 'Has Not Failed'

BK0406102192 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0641 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Malaysia's handling of the Pulau Batu Putih issue should not be misinterpreted as a weak and indecisive decision.

Diplomacy has not failed, he told reporters here Thursday.

The future of the island, which is being claimed by southern Johor state and Singapore, would still be resolved through discussions and exchanging of documents at diplomatic level.

"Diplomacy has not failed and as such why must we resort to any other kind of action until we have resolved whatever outcome at the diplomatic level," he said after opening a Foreign Service course for junior ASEAN diplomats.

He was asked to comment on an attempt made by opposition party PAS [All Malaysian Islamic Party] to plant a Malaysian flag on the disputed island last month.

Pulau Batu Putih lies 15 km off the Johor east coast and 55 km from Singapore, which calls the island Pedra Branca.

Abdullah believed PAS' attempt was only to gain political mileage.

While such an act could provoke a reaction from the other side, the issue was not a race to plant a flag there first, he said.

Abdullah said Malaysia would continue to deal with claims over overlapping territorial zones through diplomatic channels.

"Our boys have been working very hard to prepare various documents to be forwarded later. Give us time to resolve the matter," he said.

He said he was satisfied with what had been achieved so far at the three-day meeting between Malaysia and Vietnam on joint development of their overlapping territorial areas in the Gulf of Thailand.

"That is an example of what we should do when we deal with this kind of situation involving overlapping claim since there is an opportunity to be exploited together," he said.

On whether Malaysia would initiate discussions with other countries that have laid claims over the Spratlys, he said it would depend on the result of the meeting with Vietnam.

He also said next month's ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in Manila would plan how to implement the

decisions of the Singapore summit last January and discuss the revamp of the ASEAN Secretariat.

He said the Rohingya (Myanmar [Burma] Muslim refugees) issue would also be one of the topics for discussion and that ASEAN's position regarding Myanmar was still the same as decided at the summit.

Singapore

UN Sanctions Against Yugoslavia Implemented

BK0306145492 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Singapore has taken steps to implement UN sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro. The Foreign Ministry says the measures will be enforced until the UN decides to lift the sanctions. In a resolution last Saturday, the UN Security Council called for a complete trade ban except for food and medicines for humanitarian purposes.

Malaysia Seizes Two Fishing Boats off Island

BK0206130792 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] Two Singapore fishing boats which were about 15 nautical miles from Pedra Branca were checked by Malaysian Marine Police last week, LIANHE ZAOBAO reported yesterday.

Seven fishermen were released on bail of M [Malaysian dollars]\$1,000 (S\$652) [Singapore dollars] each after being detained for a night.

They returned to Singapore on Friday evening, but their boats have been detained by the Malaysian Police.

Asked about the report, Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng said yesterday that he could not comment until his ministry had investigated the matter. He added: "If the incident took place in our waters, we will take it up with the Malaysian authorities and strongly protest that it was in our waters."

Pedra Branca, an island about 55 km from the Singapore mainland, has been administered by Singapore for more than 150 years.

Malaysia, which is claiming ownership of the island, agreed in 1981 to resolve the dispute through a formal exchange of documents.

Fishman Huang Zhizhong, 48, told LIANHE ZAOBAO on Saturday that he and two other fishermen had set off from the Pudnggol fish market at 4 am on Tuesday.

They were fishing near Pedra Branca on Wednesday. The was another Singapore fishing boat in the area.

At about 5.30 am on Tuesday, a Malaysian Marine Police patrol boat appeared. Two officers went on board Mr. Huang's boat and accused them of fishing in Malaysian waters.

The police fired shots into the air when they boarded the boat, the fisherman told the Chinese morning daily.

The officers said they wanted to detain the fishermen, and ordered them to pull up their fishing nets.

Mr. Huang said that although it was difficult for him and his colleagues to tell whether they were in Malaysian or Singapore waters, they did as they were told.

One of the policemen was unhappy that they were pulling the nets slowly, and fired two shots into the air.

The policeman slapped Mr. Huang and later cut the net. This caused it to become trapped, damaging the boat's engine.

The policemen then went onto the other boat, which was occupied by fisherman Wu Shaoju and three others.

Mr. Wu, 58, said that a policeman fired several shots into the air. The fishermen were also told that they had entered Malaysian waters and made to pull up their nets.

They were about to do so when one of the officers slapped Mr. Wu.

As the first boat was damaged, the police tied the two vessels together and the fishermen were told to move them towards the coastal area near Desaru. The boats were later towed to Kuala Sediki.

The fishermen were brought to a police station where they signed a document in Malay which they did not understand. Neither was it explained to them.

They were released at about 2 pm on Friday after paying bail. They returned to Singapore in a friend's car, and are awaiting trial.

LIANHE ZAOBAO reported that the two fishing boats belonged to the Shunxing and Lianyi fish stalls in Punggol fish market.

Mr. Chen Junxiao, 36, owner of Shunxing stall, said he was not sure if the boats had entered Malaysian waters as fishing vessels generally do not have radar units. But, he added, the Malaysian police should not have slapped the unarmed fishermen.

Cambodia

Akashi Briefs Sihanouk on Zones Inspection

BK0306134692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, granted an audience in the Khemarin Palace at 0900 on 3 June to His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary-general and chief of the UN Transitional Authority in

Cambodia. H.E. Akashi received a warm and cordial welcome from HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

During the talks, H.E. Yasushi Akashi informed HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk of his inspection tour of a number of zones controlled by the four warring Cambodian factions. He said that the Khmer Rouge faction had not created favorable conditions for his inspection. The talks also centered on the implementation of Phase Two of the Cambodian cease-fire.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed his satisfaction with and thanked H.E. Yasushi Akashi for making all possible efforts to bring success to the Cambodian peace process.

Khmer Rouge, UN Chiefs Discuss Stalled Peace

BK0306145992 Hong Kong AFP in English 1416 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, June 3 (AFP)—The nominal leader of the Khmer Rouge and the head of the U.N. peace-keeping force in Cambodia met here Wednesday to discuss the stalled peace process, diplomats said.

Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge head, met U.N. chief Yasushi Akashi to discuss implementation of Phase Two of the peace process, they said.

The Khmer Rouge, who led the armed resistance to the Phnom Penh government for 13 years, are accused of preventing the start of the crucial second phase of the plan.

Last Saturday the group barred Akashi, the head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia, from entering a zone under their control around Pailin, in the west.

Khieu Samphan, also a member of the Supreme National Council, later met the Indonesian and French ambassadors to Phnom Penh.

According to diplomatic sources the Khmer Rouge position is still blocked over the peace plan, the second phase of which entails the return to barracks of troops from the warring factions and their partial demobilization. The Khmer Rouge balk at the prospect of implementing the plan because they claim Vietnamese troops are still in Cambodia.

"They appear to have made a stand on principle and want to test the capacity of resistance of the U.N.," one diplomat said.

Vietnam claims it withdrew all its troops in September 1989, 11 years after invading Cambodia and replacing the Khmer Rouge with a client regime in Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge have not been able to provide solid evidence to support their accusations.

Until now, they have refused to give details on the location of Vietnamese troops to U.N. peacekeepers.

In a document seen here Wednesday, the Khmer Rouge accused Vietnam of sending combat troops back to Cambodia in April.

In the document dated June 1, the Khmer Rouge claimed the Vietnamese sent artillery troops and munitions from bases in the southern Tay Ninh region to Cambodia's northeast Stung Treng Province, central Kompong Thom and to the northern province of Preah Vihear.

The document said, "43 military trucks reached this last province" and 10 were destroyed.

The Khmer Rouge also said, "Since the beginning of May, forces from Vietnam and Phnom Penh have launched attacks in the districts of Roveing and Koulen in the province of Preah Vihear."

"After ten days of fighting, they were able to capture a number of villages in the control of the opposition forces," the report added. "The fighting has continued ever since in a see-saw manner."

Khmer Rouge Reaffirms Stance Not To Take Power

BK0406010192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Jun 92

[“Statement of Democratic Kampuchea on Elections in Cambodia under the Supervision of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia”—dated 3 June; read by announcer]

[Text] Democratic Kampuchea [DK] wishes to make a statement regarding the elections in Cambodia under the supervision of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] according to the 23 October 1991 Paris accord.

I. The DK clearly understands that the elections in Cambodia, as specified in the 23 October 1991 Paris accord, will be free, democratic, correct, and just and will be held under a neutral political environment throughout the country. This is to allow the Cambodian people to enjoy their right to self-determination in casting their ballots.

II. To allow the elections in Cambodia to proceed in a genuinely free, democratic, correct, and just manner, the following key aspects of the 23 October 1991 Paris accord should be concretely implemented:

1. Foreign forces, that is Vietnamese aggressor forces, must completely withdraw from Cambodia;
2. The Supreme National Council should play its role as the unique source of authority in Cambodia during the transition;
3. UNTAC and the SNC should cooperate to administer state affairs in Cambodia during the transitional period so as to execute the 23 October 1991 Paris accord;
4. The armies of the four Cambodian parties should be demobilized by 70 percent at the beginning until 100 percent are finally demobilized; and

5. The atmosphere throughout Cambodia should be stable and neutral so as to allow the Cambodian people to fully exert their rights to elect their deputies to a National Assembly.

III. The DK wishes to definitely and solemnly reaffirm to the nation and international community that it has not the least intention of seizing power in Cambodia through either military or political means. As a matter of fact:

1. The DK wishes to clearly confirm that it will not run in presidential elections and that it has never paid any attention to the presidency of Cambodia;
2. The DK will not enter the contest for the National Assembly's chairmanship;
3. The DK does not intend to hold the prime minister post in a new Cambodian government;
4. The DK wishes to solemnly reaffirm to the nation and international community that it supports any political parties or any political personages who—in the past, at present, or in future elections—have participated and will participate in resolving the issue of making foreign forces, that is the Vietnamese aggressors, withdraw completely from Cambodia in keeping with the 23 October 1991 Paris accord. This is to allow the SNC to play its role as the unique source of authority during the transition in Cambodia in order to allow Cambodia to recover its independence and peace.

[Dated] 3 June 1992

[Signed] Democratic Kampuchea

SRV Spokesman Denies Troop Presence Claims

BK0306115292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1103 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 3—A spokesman of Vietnam's Embassy in Phnom Penh has rejected the public declarations on the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia made by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, president of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC).

In his recent statement, Prince Ranariddh, son of SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said: "The presence of Vietnamese troops is real, they have disguised into a great number of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia." [sentence as received]

The spokesman of the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has been authorized to totally reject the false information, said a Vietnam's declaration issued on May 30, recalling that on January 25, 1992 Prince Norodom Ranariddh, during his meeting with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, spoke of the Khmer Rouge's fabrication on the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia by saying that everyone would not be "fooled with the matter."

Letter Supports Khieu Samphan's 26 May Remarks

BK0406025992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Jun 92

["Open Letter" from a group of intellectuals in Phnom Penh to the Supreme National Council; dated 30 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Their Excellencies: We have followed with interest the implementation of the Paris accord from the beginning thus far. We have met many times, especially after having listened to the remarks made by His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan at a meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] on 26 May 1992 that the Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia broadcast on 28 May.

The gist of H.E. Khieu Samphan's address points out the real significance of the Paris accord and conforms with the concrete situation as well. We are of the opinion that if all correctly respect and execute the accord's real significance, the process of resolving the Cambodian problem through comprehensive political means can certainly proceed without difficulties. In any case, we wish to raise an issue: Who is administering Cambodia at present? So far, there are only the State of Cambodia's [SOC] Honorary Chairman Heng Samrin, head of state Chea Sim, Prime Minister Hun Sen, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, as well as this or that minister or provincial governor, and so on who have been shored up by the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979. We wish to question the status of the SOC and the SOC's president, prime minister, ministers, and provincial governors.

Is this in conformity with the Paris accord? The Phnom Penh regime is a regime installed by the Vietnamese aggressors and has been an instrument at the disposal of the Vietnamese aggressors for nearly 14 years. As such, this absolutely contravenes the Paris accord which states that the SNC is the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia during the entire transition. The SNC is empowered to hold discussions with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] on the administration of the five key ministries. However, the current SNC is absolutely powerless because everything is in the hands of the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh. There are reports that this or that SOC minister has signed this or that agreement one after the other and has also received aid from this or that person.

Actually, the SNC should be entitled to administer Cambodia and manage all state affairs according to the letter of the Paris accord. Also, the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh regime has no role in running the country during the transition. This is the issue we are worried about because it concerns the future of our motherland.

Their Excellencies, please, accept our highest regards.
[Dated] Phnom Penh, 30 May 1992

28 May Interview With Son Sann Reported

BK0306113592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Station correspondent's 28 May interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] I have just learned that on 21-22 May the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], with Your Excellency as the president, proclaimed the founding of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP] right in downtown Phnom Penh. What is your objective in founding this party?

[Son Sann] As all compatriots know well, all of us in the four Cambodian factions agreed to abide by and implement the 23 October 1991 Paris accord worked out by the Big Five so as to bring lasting peace back to Cambodia. I am of the opinion that the conflict, the antagonism, and the struggle to liberate Cambodia from the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors has already come to an end. For this reason, we Khmers have no more reasons to quarrel with one another. We should reunite the nation now so that our people can live in peace and the international community can be given an opportunity to help us rebuild our country. The armed struggle has thus ended. Therefore, the KPNLF, which for years has joined with Prince Sihanouk's faction and that of Mr. Khieu Samphan in waging war to liberate Cambodia from the Yuon aggressors, deems it time for all of us Khmers to understand each other and reunite the nation so that our country can enjoy lasting peace. Therefore, the mission of the KPNLF in waging the armed resistance has come to an end. Now it is time to set up a party to take up the motto: the policy of the front. As you know, since its founding, the front's duty is to save, serve, and defend the people against enemies, with the Yuon aggressors being the enemy number one, the genocidal regime being enemy number two, and corruption being the enemy number three.

Now that we no longer have to wage armed struggle as in the past 13 years, we must have a party to continue serving the compatriots and defend and assist them in all aspects and against these three categories of enemies. Thus, we must create a party to be ready for the upcoming free and fair general elections to be organized by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], headed by Mr. Yasushi Akashi. We must come out, be ready, and let the compatriots know that we continue our mission and remain prepared to save, serve, and defend the people. Our motto from the outset has remained: nation, religion, and people. I have announced many times that I only serve one master: the people. Therefore, our newly created party named BLDP must serve the people as a whole by basing its actions on the teachings of Lord Buddha. One day when we have time I will explain this stand more thoroughly. We must act fully in

line with the Buddha's teachings to protect our people and bring them happiness and prosperity. We created that party and we announced its existence to the public right in Phnom Penh itself. Concerning the KPNLF congress, the meeting was held in order to decide on the creation of the party. Allow me to tell you that during that congress, front members came from everywhere, both from the interior of the country and from abroad.

During the meeting, I saw many delegates who came from the United States, France, Australia, and Canada. However, our brothers in Site Two could not make it to the congress. They were stopped at Svay Chek. Although many of the KPNLF members in Site Two failed in their attempt to get to the congress, on 21 May the congress was honored by the presence of the diplomatic corps, the representative of the samdech [Prince Sihanouk], the representative of Mr. Yasushi Akashi, and [deputy UN secretary general special representative] His Excellency [H.E.] Dennis McNamara. The samdech also wrote to explain why he could not attend personally. He said he supported the congress and Mr. Yasushi Akashi had his representative Mr. McNamara read an excellent letter to the meeting.

Although our brothers from Site Two could not come, many people in the country came in droves. We held the congress at the Olympic Stadium's volleyball and basketball courts, which was full of people on the opening day. The following afternoon, only KPNLF members were present, as they had to cast their votes. I am not exaggerating: on the opening day, there were at least 5,000 participants. Some said more and some said less, but I estimated that there were more than 5,000 present.

I take advantage of this interview to express deep thanks and respect to Prince Norodom Sihanouk for allowing us to hold the congress in Phnom Penh itself. Before the congress ended, I called on the prince and informed him of the success, of the large attendance, and of the absence of any problems. After listening to all of my report, the samdech kindly told me to go back to the congress so that I could inform the congress participants that he officially recognized the BLDP and that he would cooperate with it, as the congress was winding up. This was a great success and a great encouragement for the newly formed party. First, the samdech has officially recognized the party. Second, I take this opportunity to thank H.E. Yasushi Akashi for sending H.E. McNamara, who is a human rights authority, to read a message before the congress participants.

Moreover, I would like to inform you that Mr. Akashi and the UNTAC police gave us full security. No one was able to create disturbances. We had all the law and order we needed during those few days of the congress. I take this opportunity also to thank Mr. Hun Sen for not opposing the congress. He gave us permission to hold the congress at the volleyball and basketball courts. Truthfully, I have to thank him, though he did not attend the congress.

I would also like to inform you that those taking part in the congress in addition to the KPNLF members in Cambodia and abroad—the latter coming from the United States, France, Australia, and Canada—included many brothers from inside Cambodia, from Phnom Penh, and from provinces throughout the country. I take this opportunity to express my respect to all these brothers who were not afraid to come, knowing full well that once they returned home they would be persecuted. I really respect them for this loyalty and courage. This shows that people favor and support those persons who are honest toward them, who truly advocate democracy, and who respect human rights. These persons believe in certain kinds of freedom, such as those of belief and religious adherence. Not only did our fraternal Khmers in the interior of the country come—not including those in Site Two who were prevented from coming—but many fraternal Khmer Muslims and Khmer Kraom [from southern Vietnam] came. I believe that others also attended.

I would like to tell you that after the congress, we received many excellent support petitions and letters, and we were asked to elect our leaders from top to bottom. I have already appointed all of them before coming here.

There is one thing I want to tell our compatriots. When we discussed the presence of the Yuon in Cambodia, many speakers were quite emotional. This show of indignation was witnessed by the representatives of Mr. Akashi and the samdech. Our people were not happy to see so many Yuon aggressors present in their country. They were of the opinion that Cambodia belongs to the Khmers; the jobs in Cambodia should be left to the Khmers; the land in Cambodia should be left to the Khmers; and all the products and work should also be left to the Khmers. Foreigners should not be allowed to grab all the fertile land, hold all the good jobs, plunder all our resources, and seize no one knows how many regions in Cambodia. The people obviously never agreed to that. They wanted Cambodia to remain the country of the Khmers. Succinctly, only this is what was expressed at the congress.

What I want our people to know most of all is that we have not changed our policy. We continue to serve, save, and defend the people against all kinds of enemies. We continue to regard the people as being paramount. In the future, we will continue to adhere to true democracy, to allow all kinds of freedom, and to respect human rights in all aspects, including religion. As you know, officially our state religion is Buddhism. But Buddhism is very tolerant. Lord Buddha even taught that to glorify Buddhism, other religions must also be respected. Therefore, I would like to inform you that the congress voiced nothing different from the KPNLF principles that the party has already espoused.

[Correspondent] I have learned that there were instances of human rights violations against members who had attended the congress, including some Buddhist monks, following the party's foundation. What is your opinion?

Do you have any measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in Cambodia?

[Son Sann] To tell the truth, I do not have any such measures. I can only make appeals. Right after the meeting, I pleaded to all four Cambodian factions to help make peace in Cambodia last, to allow our compatriots to be happy, and to let the international community see that we can be reunited and reconciled. They will thereby give us all kinds of technical and financial aid, so that we can rebuild the country, bring it glory, and make the people prosperous. I implored all brothers—first of all the Phnom Penh faction—to please refrain from mistreating those who attended the meeting. These people were Khmers. They came to attend because they wanted to understand the KPNLF policy and to see how the new party looked. They agreed with the congress and they knew beforehand that once they returned home they would be in trouble.

I pleaded for national reconciliation. Without unity, we cannot have peace for long. I thus implored all factions, including the Phnom Penh faction, to refrain from persecuting the participants. Let them live in peace. I have already talked about all of this. Even if I have to do it again and again, I am ready to do so. I want national reconciliation. Why do they have to persecute our Khmer brothers? They are fellow Khmers. No one has done anything to the all-present Yuon. I have heard—I do not know whether it is true or not—that the Yuon are now holding Khmer IDs. They do not harm the Yuon, but they harm their own fellow Khmers only because they attended the congress, only because they were brave enough to come and hear the meeting. Brothers, stop persecuting them, have compassion for them. They are innocent. You know, more than 20,000 of them have already enlisted as members of the BLDP! Stop persecuting them. The more you mistreat them, the more they will come to join our party. I see that they are innocent, sincere, and brave for defending their views and ideals. You must respect them instead. You do not say a word about the omnipresent Yuon, so how can you mistreat your fellow Khmers? If you do so, when will we Khmers be able to be reconciled?

I also appeal to all brothers to uphold national unity. If you love the nation, you should be united so that the nation can have lasting peace and happiness. If you continue to persecute your fellow Khmers, how can you achieve national unity? I plead again and again. All four factions should understand that national unity is necessary. If you refuse to do so, peace cannot last. There will be conflicts in the future. If there is fighting, there will be suffering and misery again. Therefore, if you want Cambodia to be peaceful and everyone to be happy, you should unite so that the international community trusts us and believes that we can be reconciled when necessary, so that it will come to help us rebuild our economy so that all of us will be prosperous and happy. Please stop persecuting fellow Khmers. You asked me what measures I can take. Well, I only have one: I pray to Lord

Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha, and I implore all four factions to work for national reconciliation.

If you do not listen and wait for the international force, UNTAC, to pressure you to reconcile, it will not be good. We must unite voluntarily. The Khmers must unite of their own free will. Do not wait and be forced to do so. You persecuted the people, and when you were caught doing so, you said that you were ordered to do so from on high. This is not respectable. I once again urge all brothers in the four factions to unite. I implore the powers that be not to persecute the little people. Some motorcyclists have even injured others in the head by ramming their vehicles into the people. Do you believe that your actions remain unknown to the public? If human beings have failed to learn about such action, the gods will not. If the gods know, you will never prosper. You are Buddhists, you should know that good causes generate good effects, and evil deeds invite evil consequences. I want you to have peace just like me. I want peace and all our brothers in Cambodia want peace. I also want you to enjoy peace. If you want peace as I do, you must never mistreat anyone, least of all your fellow countrymen. Think hard about that and prove me wrong.

[Correspondent] A group of persons lodged complaints with HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and H.E. Yasushi Akashi, chief of UNTAC, contending that the KPNLF promised to give them a monthly salary of 200 U.S. dollars and other privileges in exchange for their party membership. What is your opinion concerning these complaints?

[Son Sann] I am puzzled about these complaints and slanderous charges. To tell you the truth, we have never been involved in any sales of timber, precious stones, fish, or rubber. Our party, our front is the poorest because we are clean and honest. Since we are clean, many compatriots have joined us. I need not promise anyone any money. Many have joined our party even under threat. These people have not expected to get any dollars from me. Where can I get dollars for them? I do not have enough money even to cover the expenses of our front and party. Where can I get them money? This is not the truth. I observe the five precepts of Lord Buddha. Since 1968, I have not breached these precepts even once. I do not lie.

I know who has lodged complaints against me, and why. I am not going to tell you. I would like to say this: these complaints have been lodged with HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the head of state, and with Mr. Yasushi Akashi. I propose that HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr. Akashi put me on trial, and if it is found that the charges are true, I will accept all responsibility for my actions. My listeners are hereby asked to petition Prince Sihanouk and Mr. Akashi to put me on trial. If there is evidence that I promised anyone 200 dollars in exchange for becoming a member of the BLDP, I will accept all responsibility. I want this to be honestly settled. Should I be found not guilty, I will reveal the source of such rumors. The BLDP claims to be Buddhist. How can it violate one of the fundamental

precepts of Buddhism? To clarify this issue, prove me guilty. Let the people judge that Mr. Son Sann is a cheat.

I have no dollars to give to anyone. I have seen only that the brothers, no matter how poor, have become members of the front and party, and have even given us money. I have given no one money. They have become our members, and have even made contributions to us, only because they have confidence in the KPNLF and BLDP. They have not received any dollars from us. We have no dollars for them. Despite that, more are joining us. As I said, more than 20,000 have already joined us. I do not know how many more are coming. Thus, I repeatedly ask for an inquest. I ask to be put on trial.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Excellency. Before concluding, do you have anything else to say to the venerable monks and our compatriots, listeners of the Voice of the Khmer?

[Son Sann] My respects to venerable monks, dear compatriots: On the congress day, I saw a large number of venerable monks from several monasteries, including those who joined the peace march. Hundreds of nuns and old faithful citizens also attended. My respects to all of you. I was ecstatic to see monks, elders, nuns, and faithful citizens present on the opening day of the congress. Once again, I take this opportunity to thank all of you. If I had sinned as charged, sanctimonious persons would not have come to support me. They would not have shown me any esteem. If I lied, thus breaking the precepts, I would not have deserved their support and esteem. Thank you.

I beg all of you to pray to the gods, to Lord Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha to make our Khmer brothers understand the need for national reconciliation, for mutual love, support, and protection, as we are fellow people in the same family. We are not enemies. Khmers are not enemies of fellow Khmers. You know who the real enemies of the Khmers are. Please, explain the truth to the wrongdoers so that they return to the right path, which stipulates respect for Buddha's teachings, mutual assistance, mutual help, and abstention from harming those innocent people who came to listen to the congress. You should not brutalize, intimidate, or threaten them. It is wrong to cause physical harm by running motorcycles into people. One monk was chased down. He ran away to downtown Phnom Penh.

I have contacted UNTAC and asked it to intervene. UNTAC helps us because it wants human rights to prevail in Cambodia and be respected by all. Respecting human rights also includes respecting ourselves. What are human rights? Human rights are taught by Lord Buddha, whose first precept asks us to refrain from killing all living beings, not only humans. Human rights can be found in Buddhism. If you are true Buddhists, you must respect human rights, since the concept of human rights includes the notion of self-respect. If you need to be forced to respect human rights, you gain no merit, no elevating values. You should understand this

point and abide by the teachings of Lord Buddha. Lord Buddha teaches us to preserve peace for and defend our compatriots. I ask all venerable monks and compatriots to pray to the gods to open up the eyes of those leaders who abuse power. Even Samdech Sihanouk has preached against violence and the abuse of power. Thus, everyone should obey the teachings of Lord Buddha, the appeal of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and my personal pleas, so that all are happy. When the people are happy, you too are happy. Do you, leaders, think that whatever you are doing can escape the eyes and ears of the gods? Do not forget that the gods have the means to know about everything you do. Whether consequences are good or bad for you is all up to your deeds.

I would like to conclude here. I would like to thank all venerable monks. Please help us pray to the gods to make all Khmer brothers understand. I would like to take leave of all beloved Khmer compatriots. I will continue to pray so that all Khmers understand the need to love and help each other for the peace and happiness of everyone in Cambodia.

Laos

Ministry Group To Attend Meeting in Bangkok

BK0306152192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the delegation of the Ministry of Communications, Transport, Posts, and Construction led by Himmakon Manatham, deputy minister of the said ministry, representing the Lao Government left for Bangkok to attend the Conference on the Decade of Transport and Communications which will be held in Bangkok from 3 to 5 June.

The conference will be attended by delegates from some 30 countries from the Asia and Pacific region. The Decade of Transport and Communications spans from 1985 to 1994. At the conference, the delegates will consult with one another on mutual assistance on the development and construction of transport and communications infrastructure, especially assistance in this field given to underdeveloped countries with no access to the sea. This conference is very significant to Laos for it will allow us to ask for assistance for the development of communications facilities in our country to catch up with those in the neighboring countries. This endeavor conforms to the implementation of the party's policy of using communications as a sharp tool in the economic development in our country.

Infrastructure Meeting in Northern Region Closes

BK0406030392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] A meeting to review infrastructure and rural development work in the northern provinces successfully closed in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, in late May after five days. The meeting, held under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason,

minister of national defense, was attended by governors and more than 140 delegates from seven northern provinces of Houa Phan, Xieng Khouang, Luang Prabang, Oudomsai, Phong Saly, Luang Namtha, and Bokeo.

During the meeting, all the delegates gave their views. They assessed the achievements of recent infrastructure and rural development work. They also visited the experimental infrastructure building areas at Nala village in Sayaboury District, Atsai-gnaphoum village in Phiang District, and Meuang Thong village in Paklai District. These are considered to be model areas for the infrastructure and rural development work related to the building of people's warfare positions. Delegates from each province have learned from the work and pledged to put this into actual practice in their respective localities.

Maichantan Sengmani Chairs Luang Namtha Party

BK0306143992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday, the party committee of Luang Namtha Province convened an urgent meeting under direct guidance of Maichantan Sengmani, Political Bureau member and chairman of the Party-State Inspection Board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee. Attending the meeting were more than 50 members of the provincial party and administrative committees and representatives of various services from both the military and civilian branches.

The meeting was aimed at studying various resolutions adopted at the fourth and fifth party congresses and at reviewing the implementation of various decisions and resolutions so as to identify certain outstanding models in the socioeconomic development movement in the province to be incorporated in the political report which will be presented at the forthcoming third congress of the provincial party committee. The delegates to the meeting were also to contribute views to the direction of socioeconomic development in the next five years.

The meeting will proceed for six days before it is adjourned.

Philippines

Officials: U.S. Owes Millions in Military Aid

HK0306063592 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 3 Jun 92 p 3

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Washington still owes the Philippine government some \$300 million worth of military equipment and supplies under the Military Bases Agreement (MBA) that was scrapped last year, senior armed forces officials said yesterday.

Camp Aguinaldo said the amount due represents the total accumulated balance of undelivered U.S. military

equipment and supplies since 1985, including the shortfall in U.S. military assistance for 1990 and 1991.

Commodore Armando Madamba, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief for plans, urged the U.S. government to speed up delivery of this unused Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credit which the AFP plans to use to pay for equipment which will be left behind at Subic Naval Base by the departing American troops.

Madamba said the money will also be used to pay for the aerodome facilities at Cubi Point in Zambales for the use of Philippine Air Force and Marine units which will move there as soon as the American troops leave.

Madamba said it would take the U.S. two or three years to complete the delivery of the unused \$300 million FMS credit.

For instance, there are still some items which the U.S. had failed to deliver to the Philippines under the 1985-1989 MBA package, like armored vehicles and spare parts.

Other items in the previous MBA package have been changed not because they are already obsolete but that the Americans had not come up with replacements for these items.

Already, Madamba said, a technical team was formed by the AFP high command to be sent anytime this week to Subic base to find out what equipment the Philippine military will ask the American authorities to leave behind.

"We have manifested our intention to our American counterparts with regards to this matter," Madamba said.

He said they were not satisfied with the equipment and materials which the Americans are leaving behind. Most of these items are office furniture, like desks and chairs.

Earlier, American officials stressed that they would pull out of Subic before the December 1992 deadline imposed by the Philippine government. The Americans said they would take all "removable equipment" with them.

But the AFP have manifested their interest in some vital equipment such as radars, navigational aids and other sophisticated electronic equipment to keep the aerodome in operation even after the Americans have completely vacated the base. The AFP was particularly interested in transport and communications equipment, he said.

Madamba said the AFP was furnished with a 349-page "shopping list" of equipment the U.S. plans to turn over to the AFP. But he complained that the list consisted mainly of office and home furniture, appliances, vehicles and other quartermaster items that have little value to the military.

The technical team which will visit to Subic this week will determine what equipment in Subic the AFP will need to beef up its support service capabilities and whether the price the Americans were asking was reasonable.

As of December 1991, Madamba said the U.S. has yet to fulfill some \$300 million worth of supplies and equipment as part of the compensation package included in the MBA.

He indicated that 60% of this consisted of spare parts for equipment sold by the U.S. to the AFP. But a portion of this amount, he said, was still "uncommitted" or can be used to pay for the equipment the AFP plans to get from Subic.

Ramos Denies Offering Access to U.S. Forces

HK0306125192 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Administration candidate Fidel V. Ramos today denied that he had offered the United States access arrangements for its forces at Subic Naval Base and Cubi Point.

Ramos said there is no truth to the report because he has not had any discussions with Admiral Charles Larson, commander of the U.S. forces in the Asia Pacific.

Ramos said he has not changed his position on the issue of military bases in the Philippines.

The former defense chief said there is a need to review all the provisions related to U.S.-Philippines relations, especially those concerning defense and security.

Ramos said that if he is elected president, he will propose that the Subic facilities be put to commercial use, as was done in Singapore.

Ramos Advised To Focus on Filipinos

HK0406035192 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 4 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Sen. Jovito R. Salonga, one of the losing candidates in the seven-cornered presidential elections, advised former defense secretary Fidel V. Ramos, the frontrunner for the presidency, yesterday that he should be concerned more with his pro-Filipino actuations and not "whether the impression in some places abroad is that we are anti-U.S."

"If we are pro-Filipino, nothing else should matter. In truth, Americans will respect us more if we protect Filipino interests, first and foremost," Salonga said.

Salonga issued this statement after Ramos denied reports attributed to him that he would be willing to allow the U.S. access to its former military bases in the Philippines on a commercial basis.

Salonga's statement follows:

"What should concern Secretary Ramos more is that his actuations are pro-Filipino in that at all times, he is upholding our national interest."

"Secretary Ramos should keep in mind the reminder of former U.S. ambassador Charles Bohlen to a Filipino audience that 'we in the U.S. embassy are here (in the

Philippines) to protect American interests. We expect your Filipino officials to protect your own interests.'

"Another U.S. diplomat, Ambassador Francis Underhill, who was a former political counselor here, wrote that, 'In Third World circles they yearn to join, Filipinos are condemned and ostracized because of the bases. The base relationship perpetuates in the Philippines a crippling form of dependency. As a consequence, the Philippines is a country that is difficult to take seriously.'

"Secretary Ramos should be more careful from now on in making statements so he does not have to issue denials," Salonga said.

Aquino Orders Release of Funds

HK0406042492 Quezon City MALAYA in English 4 Jun 92 p 3

[By Chit Estella and Romy Tangbawan]

[Text] President Aquino ordered yesterday the Department of Budget and Management to release P300 million [pesos] for the operation of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and for the acquisition of vital equipment in the base that is being disposed of by the United States prior to the complete withdrawal of its facilities by December.

Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said Mrs. Aquino asked the Task Force on Bases Withdrawal, headed by Rogelio Singson, to "aggressively" pursue the acquisition of equipment essential to the privatization of Subic.

In the Senate, anti-bases Senators Jovito Salonga, Wigberto Tanada and Aquilino Pimentel criticized Fidel V. Ramos, front-runner in the May 11 elections, for blaming the "anti-American" image of the Filipinos on the Senate rejection of the proposed bases treaty.

"(Ramos) is responsible first to the Filipino people, not to any foreigner," Salonga said. He added that Ramos' statement was unnecessary because "many Americans do not even know about Subic Naval Base."

Tanada said Ramos should worry instead about restoring the U.S. bases so that Filipinos can benefit from it instead of trying to erase the "anti-U.S." image of the Philippines.

Pimentel called on Ramos to remove his "Amboy" (American boy) image. "(Ramos) should stop trying to please his American masters because in the first place, the Americans will no longer restore their military presence in the country. The American people are demanding deeper cuts in their military spending," he said.

AFP To Buy Subic Equipment

HK0406072792 Quezon City DWDD Armed Forces Radio in Tagalog 0400 GMT 04 Jun 92

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] plans to buy the radar and other modern air traffic control equipment used by the Americans at Subic Naval Base.

AFP Planning Chief Commodore Armando Madamba said the Americans also expressed plans to sell the equipment to the Philippines at low cost.

The radar and other equipment are now at Cubi Point.

Madamba said that although the purchase is not part of the military's budget, the United States still has to deliver \$300 million worth of military supplies under the Military Bases Agreement provisions.

In this connection, a team of experts will conduct an inventory in Subic next week.

New Debt Restructuring Agreement Signed With Japan

HK0306094492 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 3 Jun 92 p 8

[By Andres B. Saracho]

[Text] The Philippine government yesterday signed its fourth rescheduling agreements with Japan, stretching the repayment of approximately \$702 million in maturing debts up to 20 years.

The rescheduled official development assistance and non-ODA [official development assistance] loans, falling due between June 1 last year and end-1992, account for the largest share, or 47 percent, of the total \$1.5-billion-debts covered under the Paris Club agreed minutes on June 20 last year.

At the same time, Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao asked Tokyo, through Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Hirokazu Arai, to speed up the approval of Manila's request for the 18th yen loan package to ensure adequate funding for the incoming government's economic program.

Yesterday's agreement signing brought to 11 the total number of bilateral accords so far concluded by the country with the 14-member Paris Club.

Those already signed covered debts owed to France, the United States, Canada, Spain, the United Kingdom, the Swiss Confederation, Austria, Belgium, Finland and Denmark. Expected to be concluded shortly are agreements with Germany, Italy and the Netherlands.

The rescheduling agreements with Japan consisted of debts owed to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, \$293 million; the Export-Import Bank of Japan, \$129 million; and commercial credits insured by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI], \$279 million.

In contrast to the other Paris Club accords, the Tokyo agreements do not contain a voluntary debt swap provision due to the constraints of Japanese budgetary laws. However, major improvements in these agreements included the consolidations of previously rescheduled debts falling due within the same period, as well as the substantial lengthening of the maturity and grace periods for their repayment.

The ODA loans were rescheduled over 20 years, inclusive of a 10-year grace period, while the non-ODA portion was rescheduled over 15 years inclusive of an eight-year grace.

Under the accords, interest rates for OECF [overseas economic cooperation fund] loans, the Philippine government debts owed to Export-Import Bank, and the yen-denominated MITI credits were pegged at 3.2 percent, 5.125 percent and 0.1 percent plus Japan Long-Term Prime Rate, respectively, as were under the third rescheduling agreement.

However, a substantial reduction of interest rates from 8 percent to 6.3 percent was effected for loans obtained by the Development Bank of the Philippines and the National Power Corp. to Eximbank.

In addition, the commercial debts insured by the Japanese government now bears a floating moratorium interest of 0.1 percent over the six-month London interbank offered rate, currently pegged at 4.125 percent. This represented an improvement from the fixed rate of 7.7 percent under the previous agreement.

Estanislao said the rescheduling agreements were a signal of Japan's support for the economic stabilization and economic recovery program of the Aquino administration. "The recovery part, I am confident, will not be too distant with the very satisfactory process and outcome of our elections and with the continuing support of your government," Estanislao told Arai during the signing ceremonies.

Further, the finance chief appealed to the Japanese envoy to help facilitate the approval of the 18th yen loan package for the Philippines, a part of which would be used to finance the country's power sector rehabilitation program.

"Although it has not been the absence of financing that has hobbled it, any further facilitation and additional financing that the government of Japan and your financing institutions can possibly provide to support the fast-track approach that will need to be pursued by the next administration will contribute immensely to Philippine recovery," Estanislao said.

He said Japan's full commitment to the 18th yen package could provide a "sound base for the new administration to pursue the country's economic reform program and avoid economic as well as financing disruptions."

Indonesia To Host Spratly Islands Talks in Jul

HK0406035092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 4 Jun 92 p 1

[By Jerry Esplanada]

[Text] The Philippines will join five other claimants of the Spratly islands in the South China Sea in a conference to settle the conflict in Indonesia early next month.

Foreign Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs Jorge Coquia and officials of the fisheries bureau and the Navy make up the country's delegation.

As this developed, the foreign office yesterday dismissed "projections" by some diplomatic and military analysts that the Spratlys will be the next flash point in the Asia-Pacific region.

The DFA's [Department of Foreign Affairs] Asia-Pacific affairs office said that it remained optimistic this would not be so.

Earlier in a news conference, Foreign Undersecretary Pablo Suarez said "there is a general feeling among all the countries involved in the Spratlys that we should settle this question in a peaceful manner."

Suarez also stressed the need to maintain the status quo in the disputed islands chain until all six claimant-nations could enter into formal negotiations.

Yesterday, the DFA said "it would be the most ideal if there are no new movements of each of the parties to maintain their presence in some of those islands."

The foreign office was obviously reacting to reports that Taiwan was fortifying its defenses at Itu Abu (or Pratas), the largest island in the Spratlys.

Taiwan has deployed troops there since 1946.

Last week, the Taipei government approved a bill declaring a 200-nautical-mile economic zone by another 12 nautical miles its territorial waters, including those in the Spratlys.

Taiwan's move spurred protests from the Vietnamese government which pointed out the "unacceptability" of Taipei's claim over the Spratlys.

The Philippines also expressed concern about the development, particularly the issue of the two countries' overlapping maritime borders. The DfA has asked the Philippine liaison office in Taipei to take up the issue with Taiwanese officials.

Aside from the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam, China, along with Malaysia and Brunei also claim sovereignty over the Spratlys, which are believed to be sitting on huge deposits of oil, natural gas and other minerals.

Vietnam has laid claim to 24 islands in the area while the Philippines claims ownership over eight islets which it calls the Kalayaan group.

China controls eight other islets but, like Vietnam, it has a strong naval contingent in the South China Sea.

All six claimant-countries first met in Bali, Indonesia in July 1991. They agreed to resume informal talks on the Spratlys next month.

PRC Warns Spratly Claimants

HK0406081492 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao
Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] The People's Republic of China has told all countries claiming the Spratly Islands to abandon their claims because it is clear the islands are part of its territory.

Chinese embassy spokesman (Wan Hizong) said China's Nansha and Xisha islands refer to Paracel and Spratly islands. Wan's statement was in reaction to the reported plan of the Philippines and Beijing to coordinate with U.S. companies for oil exploration. According to the Vietnam Embassy in Manila, the total area of the PRC-United States venture is 25,000 square km.

Analysts said that if this conflict is not resolved, it could cause new tensions. Data show that the Spratly Islands are oil rich.

Environment Secretary To Attend Earth Conference

HK0106044392 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY
in English 1 Jun 92 p 1

[By Dionisio Tubianosa]

[Text] President Aquino will be represented at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil by Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio Factoran Jr.

Mrs. Aquino, faced with critical preparations for the June 30 turnover of the presidency to a new president, has herself turned down an invitation from the New York-based Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) for her to attend the Earth Summit on June 3.

The President, who nevertheless expressed her interest in the summit, said pressing matters of national interest dictated that she stay in the country until the June 30 turnover of the presidency. Her successor has yet to be declared and proclaimed by Congress in joint session.

In a letter to Mrs. Aquino dated April 28 and received May 18 by the Office of the President, NRDC officials, led by John Adams executive director, said the Earth Summit officially known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development [UNCED], will be attended by some 74 world leaders "who have already made a public commitment to participate" in the UNCED.

The NRDC has consistently urged all nations to start taking concrete steps to protect the environment for future generations.

"We do hope that your country will continue to play an active role in developing international responses to the challenges facing our planet. As you know, work is now underway on critically needed conventions on climate change and biodiversity and on the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21," they told Mrs. Aquino. Agenda 21 refers to a plan formulated to tackle such issues as the atmosphere, poverty and toxic wastes.

The NRDC added that all countries must now start making what are called "First Steps for the Planet" like reforestation, energy efficiency development, reduction of resource consumption, and a cut in the emissions of pollutants.

They also urged leaders of governments around the world to "forego development projects with serious environmental impact."

In representing the country and Mrs. Aquino, Factoran is expected to ventilate before the Rio summit environmental protection programs being undertaken by the government in coordination with the private sector as the country's share in the global efforts to protect the earth's life-support systems.

Santiago Leads Official Congressional Poll Count

HK0406014592 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Miriam Defensor Santiago of the People's Reform Party has maintained her lead in Congress' official tabulation of presidential votes as of 2157 yesterday despite allegations that she was cheated out of votes in Iloilo City. Santiago has a total vote of 1,357,050. Danding Cojuangco trails with 1,053,182 votes. Ramos comes third with 1,026,401, followed by Mitra, Salonga, Imelda Marcos, and Salvador Laurel, in that order.

Meanwhile, in the vice presidential race, Joseph Estrada continues to pull ahead of his closest rival, Ramon Magsaysay, Jr. Estrada has posted a total vote of 1,533,060, while Magsaysay, Jr. has 920,944 votes, Marcelo Fernan has 809,207, followed by Lito Osmena, Aquilino Pimentel, Vicente Magsaysay, and Eva Estrada Kalaw.

Election Body To Proclaim 24 Senators 5 Jun

HK0306130192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 Jun 92

[By Rey Sibayan]

[Text] The proclamation of 24 senators will push through on Friday [5 Jun].

This was reiterated today by Commission on Elections [Comelec] chairman Christian Monsod as the Comelec neared completion of the official tabulation of the senatorial race results.

The formal proclamation, though, was set for 1400 [0600 GMT] instead of 1100 as earlier scheduled.

Chairman Monsod said although they were still waiting for the election results from some precincts in Quezon City and Paranaque and the certificates of canvass from 15 towns in Lanao del Sur and Marawi City, they believed these will not affect rankings.

[Begin Monsod recording, in English] We believe that the votes that remain uncanvassed will probably be immaterial to the results of the 24 senators. With respect to the ranking of the 12th and 13th, which appear to be the closest, we will determine this afternoon what the differences are in the light of whatever adjustments have to be made and we'll accordingly decide how to announce the winners for those places or how to make the necessary adjustments. [end recording]

Sister Confident Ramos Will Improve Taiwan Ties

HK0306085592 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 3 Jun 92 p 3

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] The administration of leading presidential bet Fidel Ramos will advocate a more "realistic" and "balanced" approach to Philippine-Taiwan relations, changing the often-paranoid attitude taken by the Aquino administration.

This was the assessment of Sen Leticia Shahani, Ramos' sister, who said the Aquino government was bogged down by "paranoia" in foreign policy toward Taiwan during its term.

Under President Aquino, Congress failed to pass a bill institutionalizing economic ties with the island nation.

A few months ago, the Taiwan and Manila economic offices themselves signed an investment guarantee agreement, defeating a lobby by Taiwan officials for a more political accord.

Asked to assess the direction of Manila-Taipei ties under a Ramos government, Shahani said: "I'm sure there will be no repudiation of the People's Republic of China: it is too powerful a presence."

"But I would say there would be a balancing of issues, a more realistic acceptance of the role of Taiwan in the global economy and perception that they (two Chinas) will eventually unite," she added.

"We don't see why the Philippines should be part of that family quarrel (between Taipei and Beijing)," she said.

Shahani and Ramos' father, Narciso Ramos, had himself pushed for closer Manila-Taipei ties, raising the likelihood of some shift in this policy issue under Ramos' government.

Shahani, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, has consistently called for more realistic ties with Taiwan, a key investor in the country, while respecting relations with Beijing.

She sponsored the Senate version of the bill that would encourage economic ties with "foreign entities" that the Philippines has no official ties with. The House had proposed a much more radical, less diplomatic bill. The foreign office has taken a more cautious route, advising Congress against ruffling Beijing's feather by avoiding moves that could be interpreted as abandonment of the one-China policy.

Taiwan grabbed the headlines the other day after leading vice presidential candidate Sen Joseph Estrada flew to the island province. Estrada was accompanied by Manila Mayor-elect Alfredo Lim and Congressman-elect Roque Ablan Jr.

Asked to comment on Estrada's trip to Taiwan, Shahani said: "I hope Senator Estrada's move is in consonance with the overall foreign policy of the incoming administration."

Poll Body Accuses Ramos Party of Rule Violation

HK0306135792 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 3 Jun 92

[By Rey Sibayan]

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] today said the Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats [Strength-NUCD] violated the election rules when it publicized the official tabulation showing presidential candidate Fidel V. Ramos had won.

Comelec Chairman Christian Monsod said the publication of the tabulation in a newspaper was too early and unauthorized.

As a result, the Comelec suspended NUCD's privilege to receive copies of certificates of canvass and other supporting documents held by the Comelec.

Monsod gave Strength-NUCD 24 hours to submit source documents and explain its tabulation procedures to a panel of auditors and representatives of other major political parties.

[Begin Monsod recording in English] We are terminating the privileges accorded to Strength-NUCD to copy the documents of the Commission's certificates of canvass and I'm giving them 24 hours to appear here at the Army and Navy Club to show their figures, the sources of their figures, and their procedures if any to a panel of political parties and we are calling on the political parties to send one representative each to take a look at these figures. [end recording]

Military Confirms Plot To Assassinate Ramos

HK0406084992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 Jun 92

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] The military today confirmed a plan by the rightist and leftist groups to liquidate former Defense

Secretary Fidel Ramos and a former general who is almost certain of winning as a senator.

In an intelligence report read by DZRH, New People's Army [NPA] rebels allegedly are planning to form a tactical alliance with the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance [RAM]-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union to kill Ramos and the unidentified senatorial candidate to prevent their proclamation. Although the candidate was not identified, one could only think of General Rodolfo Biazon, the former Armed Forces of the Philippines chief, who has made it to the magic 24 line-up of new senators.

The intelligence report did not state when or where the rebels would carry out this plan, but a top secret report said that this is only part of the rebels' No Proclamation plan.

Sources from the Ramos camp said they have been told of the threat and are taking necessary precautions including stepping up security for the former secretary.

A high ranking official in Camp Aguinaldo who does not want to be identified said he learned that the Moro National Liberation Front has dispatched an assassin named Jun Ibad to liquidate Ramos. The official said he is not sure if this is a part of the No Proclamation plot by the Communist Party of the Philippines-RAM. He added that the killing of Ramos would spark wide-scale trouble which would be led by a joint NPA-RAM force to overthrow the government.

Police To Extend Gun Ban Indefinitely

HK0106091792 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 1 Jun 92 p 1

[By Cena De Guzman]

[Text] Director-General Cesar Nazareno, Philippine National Police (PNP) chief, announced yesterday that the nationwide ban on the carrying of firearms is extended indefinitely.

Nazareno said that the gun ban, which has been imposed since Jan 12, will continue to be enforced even after the 150-day election period on June 10.

The firearms ban was ordered by the Commission on Elections (Comelec) last Dec 11. The ban prohibits unauthorized individuals from carrying firearms outside of residence.

As a general rule, only PNP and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) personnel on official duty are allowed to carry firearms outside of residence.

Intelligence operatives occupying plantilla positions in the intelligence services are also exempted from the ban but they are required to carry with them certification by their commanding officers.

Nazareno said that close coordination with AFP authorities will be made by the PNP in the matter of intelligence agents and that all authorizations for exemption from the ban will be issued only by the general headquarters of PNP.

To implement the directive, Nazareno created the PNP committee on firearms ban which is tasked with evaluating the papers of applicants for exemption from the ban. It will also be the approving authority for the granting of the exemptions.

All permits to carry firearms outside of residence issued before Jan 12 have been cancelled even if the validity dates are beyond June 10, it was announced.

Mobile police checkpoints similar to the joint PNP-Comelec-AFP checkpoints established to implement the firearms ban will be set up in strategic places. Violators of the ban will be arrested.

In extending the firearms ban, Nazareno took into consideration public clamor and the encouraging peace and order situation during the election period.

Nazareno reported that during the period, the PNP recorded a 75 percent decline in gunrelated crimes.

The most notable gain of the firearms ban during the polls was the low number of election-related violent incidents, he said.

Thailand

Tribunal Rules Amnesty 'Not Unconstitutional'

BK0406003192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Jun 92 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] The Constitutional Tribunal, by an overwhelming vote of seven to two against, yesterday upheld the amnesty decree, saying it was not unconstitutional and could be put up for parliamentary debate on June 10.

However, House Speaker Athit Urairat, who chaired the tribunal, said that if the Opposition filed a new motion seeking a second interpretation of the decree then parliamentary deliberation on the controversial edict, granting amnesty to all involved in the May 17-20 tragedy, would be delayed.

It took the 11-member tribunal, minus Dr Ukrit Mongkonnawin who has resigned from the Senate, five hours to reach the ruling.

Dr Athit later told reporters that 141 opposition MPs led by New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut had called on the tribunal to rule on the constitutionality of the decree. They argued that the decree was not in keeping with the second paragraph of Article 172 of the charter which states that the Cabinet can issue an executive decree only in an emergency or unavoidable circumstances. The Opposition contended that there was no urgency to issue the decree in such a manner.

Dr Athit said Article 173, which allows MPs to appeal to the tribunal to clarify constitutional ambiguities, does not empower anyone to challenge what the Cabinet interprets as urgent or an emergency. That is left to the discretion of the Cabinet and thus the tribunal overwhelmingly ruled that the amnesty decree was constitutional. However, the House Speaker said that the Opposition could submit another motion to the tribunal citing Paragraph One of Article 172 for a second interpretation as suggested by academics.

Paragraph One states that an executive decree can be issued to ensure national security, public safety, economic security and to avert danger to the public. In seeking a second interpretation, law lecturers have advised the Opposition to cite insecurity and danger to the public promulgation of the decree may cause.

Dr Athit said if the Opposition does not file a second motion the decree will be scheduled for parliamentary debate on June 10 after the charter amendment drafts are passed. But if the Opposition should decide otherwise deliberation on the decree would be delayed.

Sources in judicial circles, however, claimed that the 7-2 vote was in fact much closer than the score indicates. Dr Athit did not vote since he was chairing the meeting. The two members who voted against the decree were former Supreme Court president Banyat Suchiwa and former Counter Corruption Commission member Suthi Agatsarook.

The two were of the opinion that the first and second paragraphs of Article 172 were interlinked and the opposition motion should not have been voted down. Mr Suthi also reportedly argued that interpreting a law should be done in a way that would lead to peace and order in society and not fuel further unrest.

One Appeals Court judge commented: "The tribunal decision showed that there is still dictatorship on the panel."

Asked if this was not passing the burden on to Parliament against the hope of the people to see the decree voided, Dr Athit said parliamentary procedures are not yet exhausted and Parliament would be able to consider the decree on a wider scope.

The Constitution Tribunal can only consider legal aspects of the decree while Parliament will also be able to consider the political aspects and the facts surrounding the way the Cabinet handled it, he added.

Asked what would be the use of having a House committee to investigate the brutal shooting of unarmed protesters when passage of the amnesty decree would absolve those responsible from prosecution, Dr Athit said he did not want to answer the question because it was more a sort of "academic debate".

New Aspiration spokesman Chaturon Chaisaeng later announced the party would submit a new motion seeking an interpretation of the decree based on the first paragraph of Article 172. It would be submitted next

Tuesday, June 9, a day before the decree is supposed to be debated in Parliament. Mr Chaturon said the timing is crucial.

"On June 10, hopefully, the charter would have been amended. As such the military-dominated Senate would not be attending the deliberation on the decree which should bode well for those who want the edict voided."

He said that even if Dr Athit scheduled the decree for debate next Wednesday it would have to be postponed until the tribunal gives a second ruling.

The Democrat and Phalang Tham parties also endorsed the plan to file a second motion. [passage omitted]

Opposition Party To Resubmit Motion on Amnesty

*BK0406090792 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0530 GMT 4 Jun 92*

[Text] General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, leader of the New Aspiration Party, granted an interview to newsmen before attending the parliamentary session this morning. He said the New Aspiration Party will today file a new motion to have the Constitutional Tribunal rule on the amnesty decree under article 172, Paragraph 1, of the Constitution.

Asked about the possibility of a dissolution of the House of Representatives, the leader of the New Aspiration Party said there would be more discussion among parties involved, and if no solution better than dissolving the parliament can be found, the House will then be dissolved in order to allow the people to vote again. Asked about his opinion on the matter, Gen. Chawalit said a House dissolution should be a final solution if all other methods fail. However, he would prefer to see all parties cooperate in solving the problem through other methods first because a House dissolution is a waste of time: at least 90 days would pass between the dissolution of the House and the holding of a general election, and an additional period of time after that would be needed before a government could be formed. This is a waste of time and not advantageous for the country.

Asked if any progress had been made in efforts by the four opposition parties to form a government, Gen. Chawalit said all political parties share the duty of solving the nation's problems. He stressed that the opposition parties uphold democratic principles and regularly hold joint meetings to inform the public about measures taken in the service of the people. Asked about the New Aspiration Party's position regarding support for Chuan Likphai [leader of the Democrat Party] as prime minister, Gen. Chawalit said his party supports all capable people, but he said that newsmen will have to ask other parties about their own opinions. Each party is free to make its own decision, and there is no need for a joint stand on such matters. Asked whether mob rule should be blamed again for the demonstrations calling

for the expeditious nomination of a prime minister, Gen. Chawalit said the people are always entitled to voice their opinions.

Opposition To Support Democrat Leader for Premier

*BK0406105892 Bangkok Thai Color Television
Channel 9 in Thai 1003 GMT 4 Jun 92*

[Text] General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, leader of the New Aspiration Party and opposition bloc who was formerly entrusted by the four opposition parties to coordinate the formation of a government, has admitted that he could not do the work due to some obstacles. The four opposition parties have consulted each other and decided to give their support to Chuan Likphai, leader of the Democrat Party, to act as the leading core in forming a government and assuming the premiership.

[Begin Chawalit recording] Chuan is a good man. We all know that. He can compromise and has experience. He is a man of principle. There was so much information that the Democrat Party would do this and that which turned out to be untrue. [end recording]

Uthai Phimchaichon, secretary general of the Solidarity Party, said the decision to have the Democrat Party form a government is part of the political procedure. He believed that Chuan is capable of forming a government, reasoning that when M.R. Khukrit Pramot formed his government, his party had only 18 votes in the house. Moreover, Chuan is also acceptable to the people.

Democrat Leader Agrees To Form New Government

*BK0406135492 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 4 Jun 92*

[Text] Chuan Likphai, leader of the Democrat Party, together with leaders of other opposition parties, held a joint news conference at the National Assembly today. Chuan Likphai said he would do his best, with support from the four opposition parties, to form a government that commands the majority in the house and is acceptable to the people. He said:

[Begin Chuan recording] I know that this is a difficult task but it is a duty. I will try my best. Whether I will succeed or fail is a matter for the future. I have not much in the way of details to tell you at this moment. [End recording]

Michai Criticizes Politicians for Self-Interest

*BK0406011092 Bangkok THE NATION in English
4 Jun 92 p A2*

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan yesterday criticized political parties for thinking only of themselves when they expressed opposition to the dissolution of parliament.

"At this stage, politicians must stop and consider why they play politics—for the country or for personal gain," Michai said.

He said there have been growing calls by political parties for the dissolution of Parliament.

Three parties—Democrat, Phalang Tham and Solidarity—have indicated that they support the dissolution of parliament as a way out of the present political impasse.

Michai said if most politicians agree, he would dissolve Parliament. However, most MPs were still opposed to the idea, he added.

He said it would be better to set up a provisional government and let an elected premier dissolve parliament.

"People might criticize me if I dissolve parliament, saying that I do not know how hard it is to campaign for election," said Michai, who did not stand in the March election.

Asked to comment on a Phalang Tham MP's proposal to dissolve the senate as well, Michai said: "According to the Constitution, the government head cannot dissolve the senate, as it would perform parliamentary duties in the absence of the House of Representatives.

Referring to a group of people demanding the appointment of the next premier as soon as possible, Michai said mobs should avoid confrontation as there might be more violence.

Michai called on politicians to really work for the people, and not simply claim that they are doing so. He added that the cause of the violence last month was the fact that politicians ignored the people's wishes.

Asked about complaints from people he met when upcountry recently, Michai said he had received various complaints regarding the economic setback, especially in the tourism industry.

He said he suggested that hotels reduce room rates for a period of time.

Asked whether the investigation into the May massacre, being conducted by a house committee, would peter out, Michai said the committee will work step by step until investigation is completed.

Questioned about the government's plan to tackle the drought problem in different parts of the country, he said there will be a cabinet meeting on June 9 to consider a budget to help those affected by the drought.

Coalition Parties Against House Dissolution

*BK0206020592 Bangkok THE NATION in English
4 Jun 92 p A1*

[Text] Major political parties in both government and opposition camps reached a consensus yesterday by voicing objections to a proposal that the House of Representatives be dissolved to break the current political deadlock.

The biggest party, Samakkhi Tham, proposed a national referendum to determine whether the House should be dissolved. Its two main allies, Chat Thai and Social Action parties, announced they were opposed to a dissolution.

The three parties, plus the smaller Prachakon Thai and Ratsadon parties, who had backed ex-military chief Suchinda Khraprayun as prime minister, are trying to form a new government in the wake of the popular uprising against him. Prachakon Thai also said yesterday it was against an immediate dissolution of the House.

Pro-democracy groups say the five parties no longer have the mandate to rule after virtually doing nothing to stop troops from firing on anti-Suchinda demonstrators.

Pressure has mounted for a House dissolution after the four-party Opposition had unsuccessfully tried to form an alternative government.

Samakkhi Tham resolved at a party meeting to ask Parliament to conduct a national referendum to determine whether the House of Representatives should be dissolved.

Observers, however, said the Samakkhi Tham proposal was impractical because the unprecedented referendum would take time to organize, while those favouring a House dissolution want it to happen as soon as possible.

Social Action said a House dissolution would not solve the problems.

"We had a general election just two months ago," said acting PM's Office Minister Piyanat Watcharapon, the Social Action spokesman.

Key Opposition parties yesterday also expressed guarded disapproval of a quick House dissolution, which they said should be the "last resort" to deal with the political stalemate.

Earlier in the day, leaders of the Democrat Party, the second biggest in the opposition camp, indicated they would accept a House dissolution as a way out of the current deadlock.

Deputy Democrat leader Banyat Banthathan said in a press release that a dissolution of Parliament now seemed to be the "last resort" necessary to end the present political deadlock.

"If politics has reached a dead end, with no other choices left, dissolving the House to pave the way for a new election will be necessary. And the Democrat Party is ready for that," Banyat said.

Later Democrat spokesman Churin Laksanawisit said after a party meeting: "We have not reached a dead end yet".

Churin said dissolving the House now would be like "overturning a chess board when players cannot think any longer".

The Phalang Tham Party did not make a clear-cut stand yesterday, though it had earlier repeatedly called for a House dissolution.

"Let everything be decided by the parliamentary process," said Adm Siri Sirirangsi, acting Phalang Tham leader.

On Tuesday, Solidarity proposed a House dissolution to break the political impasse resulting from politicians' failure to find a credible prime minister who has majority support in Parliament.

Deputy Democrat leader Banyat said yesterday the party had turned down several invitations by the coalition parties to join a new government.

"We rejected the offers without mentioning any conditions. We have our own principles on joining a government. We know who we can join and who we should not. We can't join any party just for the sake of becoming a government partner," he said.

Pro-Democracy Leaders Claim To Be on 'Hit List'

BK0406012792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Pro-democracy leaders yesterday claimed that their names are on a hit-list of some highly-trained military hit squads which are constantly keeping track of their movements and could get them any time if the situation allows.

Former Phalang Tham Party leader Chamlong Simuang is keeping his whereabouts secret in the city as a precautionary measure while other Confederation for Democracy members are continuously receiving death threats from unknown callers.

In a telephone interview Major-General Chamlong said he has been warned by "Pu Yai" (elders) that his life was in danger and he should go into temporary hiding. Maj-Gen Chamlong said he has adhered to the advice and was now living "somewhere in Bangkok" but not at his own house.

"I am fine. I want to stay quiet for a while and I'm spending my time writing a book on the protest," Maj-Gen Chamlong said.

His aides said the ex-Phalang Tham leader will only turn up in public at House meetings and would attend the third reading of the Constitution amendment drafts next Wednesday.

Confederation for Democracy [CFD] executive member Prinya Thewanaruemitkun said he was also told by several sources that altogether 27 persons were on the hit-list and that his name was among them.

All seven CFD leaders are on the list, Mr Prinya said. Other than Maj-Gen Chamlong and himself the other CFD leaders are Dr San Hattirat, Dr Weng Tochirakan, Mrs Prathip Ungsongtham Hata, Somsak Kosaisuk and Ms Chitawadi Worachat.

Some politicians, including New Aspiration Party deputy leader Wira Musikaphong and former National Security Council secretary-general Sqn-Ldr Prasong Sunsiri, are also said to be on the army hit-list.

Mr Prinya said he had often been shadowed and had received threats on the phone since becoming secretary-general of the Students Federation of Thailand. But recently, he said, he has been receiving phone calls warning him to stop his activities and that he was on the army hit-list, the student leader said.

"The caller told me that they are deadly serious this time," Mr Prinya said. He said the caller claimed that he was a soldier who sympathises with the pro-democracy movement. Mr Prinya said other sources confirmed the threat.

Another CFD leader, Mrs Prathip, said she had also become a target of death threats which have intensified lately. These threats were made by the same three callers, she said.

"They have threatened to bomb my house and the Duang Prathip Foundation, kidnap my child and assault me," said the Magsaysay Award winner.

A source in the pro-democracy groups said a number of those actively involved in organising the anti-Suchinda rallies, including himself, had been blacklisted. Some have been tailed and their homes and offices searched following the May 17-20 bloodshed.

Junior Officers Said Unhappy Over Leaders' Role

BK0406013992 Bangkok THE NATION in English
4 Jun 92 p A2

[Text] Parliamentary reporters yesterday received faxed copies of what was purported to be a report from a senior Army officer to the permanent secretary for defence about dissatisfaction among young soldiers over their leaders' role in the May 17-20 massacre.

However, it could not yet be confirmed whether the letter, purportedly sent on Friday from Maj Gen Somphong Kiatnarongrop to Permanent Secretary for Defence Gen Wanchai Ruangtrangun, was genuine.

The letter identified Somphong as the head of an Army committee established to follow up developments in the aftermath of the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators.

According to the letter, Somphong told Wanchai that his panel had received documents from "your junior colleagues to all Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy graduates", calling for the military institution to immediately correct its poor public image.

The soldiers, according to the unverified report, had urged their "Chunlachomklao seniors" to immediately join forces in correcting the military's image by supporting a five-point list of demands.

First, they called on military leaders to resign their posts and seek foreign asylum.

The soldiers, whose identities were not included in the letter, called for the military commanders who led the crackdown on demonstrators from May 18 to 20 to stand trial.

They also urged the armed forces to release the genuine casualty figures and disclose the places where corpses were allegedly hidden.

The soldiers demanded that the armed forces immediately apologize to the public for the massacre and that soldiers stop interfering in politics.

Copies of the letter were faxed to reporters at Parliament at about 2 pm, a hour and a half before a group of young men in civilian clothes, who claimed to be Chunlachomklao cadets, demonstrated briefly in front of Parliament.

Before dispersing, the men distributed leaflets saying military leaders had acted against the words of His Majesty the King who advised soldiers to stay out of civilian politics.

The leaflets quoted the King as saying on May 15, 1956: "As soldiers receive the honour and privilege of controlling the country's arms and forces, and are respected and held in high esteem by the general public, they have to behave themselves to deserve the trust.

"Soldiers should not become involved in non-military affairs, such as politics. Getting themselves involved in such affairs will lead to a decline in the public's faith in soldiers. The people will think that soldiers have abused their influence for personal interests."

Thai Soldiers, Cambodian Refugees Clash at Site 2

*BK0406022192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Jun 92 p 6*

[Excerpts] An unknown number of people were killed and wounded in gun battles between Thai soldiers and displaced Khmers at Site 2 on the Thai-Cambodian border, police and military sources reported yesterday.

The clashes pitted Khmer protesters demanding more financial repatriation assistance from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) against camp security units backed up by Thai army units.

A third group, comprised of hungry opportunists, looted the camp during the outbreak of violence, border sources said.

Tension—fuelled by threats, rumours and isolated incidents—had built up since mid-afternoon but the clashes between the Khmers and combined Thai security forces did not erupt until about 6.30 p.m.

A spokesman for the Thai units said that they acted to defend innocent people and to prevent the escape of armed Khmers who had threatened to take Thai villagers hostage.

The spokesman said Thai security forces set up a defensive position around Site 2, the biggest refugee camp in Thailand, after the in-camp office of the Displaced Persons Protection Unit (DPPU) 882 camp came under attack from Khmers armed with war weapons such as M-16 assault rifles, AK-47 machine guns and rockets.

A number of assailants were injured, with some believed killed, during the incident, the source said. The DPPU-882 office was partly damaged by fire. A number of fires are reported to have damaged housing on the perimeter of the huge camp, which houses some 200,000 Khmers. However, the situation was said to have been brought under control by about 8 p.m. by the Displaced Persons Protection Unit (DPPU) and the Khmer police based at the camp.

Tension however prevailed as the DPPU evacuated the wounded from the camp, among them the Khmer camp commandant of Site 2 South, Tou Thon. Mr Tou Thon, aged 55, was allegedly battered by a group of "radical" Khmers when he tried to stop them from resorting to violence. He was reported to be receiving medical treatment at the hospital in Khao I Dang which is run by the Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Cambodians were armed with machine guns that had been unearthed earlier from caches in the camp, according to police and military reports from the border.

About 500 troop reinforcements—from the Burapa Task Force, rangers, provincial police and volunteers—supported by six armoured personnel carriers reportedly took up positions around the site yesterday evening.

Women, children and the elderly from the nearby villages of Thap Thai and Sa-Ngae were evacuated following reports that they may be taken hostage by the Khmers as a counter measure against possible reprisals by Thai forces. An estimated 1,600 Khmer Krom were evacuated to Khao I Dang for safety reasons. [passage omitted]

The UNHCR "is counting on the common sense of the demonstrators and will attempt to deliver essential water supplies to the camp even as the demonstrations continue," according to a statement released in Bangkok.

The cause of the uproar was allegedly a demand by Cambodians that the cash assistance for repatriation be jacked up from \$50 to \$700 each. A UN official in Bangkok said the UNHCR wants to meet representatives of the demonstrators but it remains unclear as to what they want or who they are. Sources said the camp was now being run by a Khmer leadership unknown to the relief community.

Site 2 is one of four staging areas for the UN repatriation programme, which involves the return of some 375,000 Cambodians. So far about 20,000 have returned to their homeland.

Though a convoy was blocked at Site 2 on Tuesday, movement apparently went ahead as scheduled from three other staging areas. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Former Saigon Officials Released From Reeducation

BK0406085092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0844 GMT
4 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi, June 4 (AFP)—All former officials and associates of the former Saigon government have been released from re-education camps, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry announced Thursday.

The last inmate was freed on April 30, ministry spokeswoman Ho The Lan said.

The release of all former officials sent for re-education when South Vietnam fell under communist rule in 1975 was one of three conditions set by the United States for lifting its economic embargo and establishing diplomatic relations with Hanoi.

"The former collaborators with the former regime" were freed "in line with the lenient policy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, depending on their attitude during reeducation," Lan said.

Court Sentences Two for Anti-Regime 'Propaganda'

BK0306132992 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI
PHONG in Vietnamese 15 May 92 p 1

[Text] On 14 May, the people's court of Ho Chi Minh City held a preliminary hearing to try Doan Thanh Liem and Nguyen Tri convicted of "conducting propaganda against the socialist regime." The adjudicating board was chaired by Mr. Le Thuc Anh. Lawyer Nguyen Dang Trung defended Doan Thanh Liem.

Doan Thanh Liem was profoundly attached to the former puppet administration and some of the former U.S. high-ranking officials. Following the liberation of the country, disguised as "a legal adviser to a foreign company," Liem took advantage of his contact with foreigners to communicate with reactionaries in exile, and receive and keep reactionary documents against the socialist regime. He prepared propaganda documents and psychological warfare themes to oppose the socialist regime, and demand that "the party renounce its political monopoly" and "the national assembly dissolve."

To conduct his propaganda, Liem secured the support of Nguyen Tri (alias Truong Hung Thai) who was once confined for rehabilitation because of his reactionary poems. He asked Tri to type documents written by him, using the typewriter bought by Tri with Liem's money. Besides the above-mentioned documents, Liem handed to Tri two English-language documents having anti-communist party and anti-socialist regime contents. At the trial, Liem also admitted that he had translated into

English some press articles written by some people in Ho Chi Minh and Vung Tau cities, and sent them abroad.

The people's court of Ho Chi Minh City sentenced Doan Thanh Liem and Nguyen Tri respectively to 12 and eight years of imprisonment.

Vo Tran Chi Receives Japanese Delegation

BK0406102992 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI
PHONG in Vietnamese 13 May 92 P 1

[Report by Ngoc Oanh on 12 May reception hosted by Political Bureau member Vo Tran Chi for Japanese Consumer Cooperative Delegation]

[Text] On the morning of 12 May, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee, received in Ho Chi Minh City a visiting delegation of the Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives which was led by Mr. Isao Takamura, chairman of the central council of Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives.

Mr. Isao Takamura said: The purpose of the delegation's visit is to probe the market, the managerial ability of trade cooperative cadres, and the preferences of consumers in the city so as to reach a deal on the barter of goods between the Vietnamese and Japanese cooperatives. At the same time, Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives will assist the trade cooperatives of Ho Chi Minh City in training management cadres.

The city party committee secretary on behalf of the city's people, thanked the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative delegation for its good will and hoped that the fine relations between the peoples of the two countries and the Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives and the Vietnamese Trade Cooperatives would constantly develop.

On the afternoon of 11 May 1992, the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative delegation held cordial talks with the cadres and personnel of the city's trade cooperatives. Mr. Isao clearly pointed out the similarities in the current socioeconomic situation in which the cooperative organizations of the two countries must struggle to survive and develop, aiming to achieve the common goal of serving the interests of workers. He believed that this is the basis of the long-term relations of cooperation and trade between the two cooperatives.

The chairman of the central council of Japanese Consumers' Cooperatives also exchanged his experiences in business organization and management with the cadres of the city's trade and cooperative sectors.

Vo Chi Cong Sends Message to Earth Summit

BK0306152392 Hanoi VNA in English 1434 GMT
3 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 3—President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong today sent a message of greetings to Mr. Butrus Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations, and Mr. Maurice Strong, secretary general of

the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, on the occasion of the conference on environment and development began in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, today. The message said:

"Together with other nations in the world, the Vietnamese people fully agree to the conference's objectives, strategies, and measures aimed at ensuring the steady development in developing countries where more than 4 billion people are struggling with poverty, starvation, backwardness, slow development, and the consequences of environmental degradation.

"The 21st century program of action which will be adopted by the conference will surely meet the great aspirations for the environment and development of all nations, including both present and future generations, fully aware of that heavy and noble responsibility. Let us join efforts to make the conference a success.

"I would like to convey to the conference greetings from the 67 million Vietnamese people and the commitment of the government and people of Vietnam to carry out the noble objectives worked out by the conference."

Importance of 2d Phase of Cambodian Accord Noted

*BK0406073592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Jun 92*

[Article by Duong Quang Minh: "At the Threshold of the Second Phase of the Cease-Fire in Cambodia"]

[Text] Since the signing of the Paris peace accord on Cambodia on 23 October 1991, many efforts have been made to implement its first phase. They include the setting up of international agencies such as the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC] and UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], the return to Phnom Penh by Prince Sihanouk, the opening of offices of the opposition factions in the capital, the deployment of UN civilian and military teams to various regions in Cambodia, and the voluntary cease-fire agreed to by Cambodian factions. All factions, however, have not seriously observed the cease-fire agreement during the past seven months. In the central province of Kompong Thom for instance, the Khmer Rouge have continued with their provocations. The public is concerned about the danger of any opposition to the peace process of the Paris Accord. Some doubt whether the United Nations would be able to fulfill its peace keeping mission in Cambodia—the most important and expensive mission of this world body in its almost 50-year history.

Now as the second phase of the peace accord approaches, preparations are being made to maintain the cease-fire and disband the military forces of the Cambodian factions. According to General John Sanderson, commander of UNTAC, the second phase will come into effect from 0800 on 13 June. He adds that Cambodian factions have pledged in their 9 May meeting that they will take measures to ensure that there will be no cease-fire violations, especially in Kompong Thom Province. They will also cooperate to clear all minefields to

urgently reopen Route No. 12, reinforce guard units at various check points in the eastern region, and make sure UNTAC enjoys full freedom in carrying out its mission including trips to various areas managed by Cambodian factions at the earliest date. Also, warning signs will be placed at minefields of all factions; information on the troop, arms, and ammunition affected by the regroupment will be promptly given to UNTAC, and guidance on regroupment and cantonment provided to troops of each faction.

The public believes the second phase of the cease-fire, which will disband the military of the Cambodian factions, is a vitally important stage in the implementation of the accords. Its most concrete tasks include the moving of armed units of all Cambodian factions to designated regroupment areas set and controlled by UNTAC. When commanders of UNTAC feel this exercise, which is expected to be completed in four weeks, is over, 70 percent of troops of all Cambodian factions will be discharged. If these tasks can be fulfilled gradually according to plan, it is possible that cease-fire violations will be eliminated, and the process toward organizing and implementing a free general election in 1993 will take shape.

For its part, the State of Cambodia has consistently shown its goodwill. Cambodian Defense Minister Tie Banh, in his 30 May message to officers and combatants of the Cambodian People's Army [CPA] prior to the second phase, called on the CPA to strictly observe the cease-fire and closely cooperate with UNTAC in implementing the accord. Minister Tie Banh also urged them to abide by the regulations when they join civilian life and to help rebuild the nation.

On the other hand, however, the Khmer Rouge have not kept their commitments. Various sources have accused the Khmer Rouge of preventing Mr. Akashi, special envoy of the UN Secretary General, from visiting Pailin. Indeed, they have also blocked a Dutch marine unit from entering their areas to prepare for the second phase and planted mines at the border where the UN teams will set up check points. An Indian commander of an UNTAC unit in Pailin, Colonel Marik, said the Khieu Samphan faction last week was still planting landmines in the areas in the presence of UNTAC units.

In the next 10 days, the second phase of the cease-fire will come into effect. This means the cease-fire will be put under the UN control and troops of the Cambodian factions will be disbanded. To overcome obstacles and to create conditions for implementing this phase, UNTAC and the Cambodian factions are making the essential preparations to fulfill the task.

On 4 June, the Cambodian factions will again meet under the chairmanship of Prince Sihanouk to discuss measures to overcome the deadlock in implementing the accord. According to AFP, Prince Sihanouk, in a letter to the Cambodian factions, stressed that if the deadlock is not resolved within 10 days he will bring this problem to

the UN Security Council. Earlier, on 1 June, Prince Sihanouk sent a message to the Khmer Rouge calling on them to stop blocking the peace process so that the second phase of the cease-fire can be implemented. Prince Sihanouk also expressed his deep concern over the action of the Khmer Rouge police in stopping Mr. Akashi's delegation on 30 May. The Prince has asked the Khmer Rouge to comply with the following points:

1. Allow Mr. Akashi and UNTAC to travel freely to all areas.
2. Create conditions for the UN to regroup, disarm, and discharge armed units of Cambodian factions, and
3. Stop all armed provocations within Cambodian territory.

Vietnam, a member of the International Conference on Cambodia, pledges to do its best to contribute to implementing the peace process in Cambodia according to the Paris Accord. As a result, Vietnam is indignant with those who try to obstruct the implementation of the accord. We support all efforts aimed at implementing the peace process in Cambodia, ensuring the interest and self-determination of the Cambodian people, promoting security of Cambodia's neighboring countries, and contributing to peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the Southeast Asia.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Burmese Envoy 3 Jun

*BK0306154792 Hanoi VNA in English 1437 GMT
3 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 3—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received here today Myanmar [Burmese] ambassador to Vietnam U. Win Shein, who paid him a courtesy visit.

Ambassador Win Shein praised the traditional relations between Vietnam and Myanmar, he expressed his belief that the two countries bilateral cooperation would be further strengthened for their prosperity and for peace, friendship, stability and development in Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

For his part, Chairman Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed that the Vietnamese Government and people always respect the traditional relations between the two countries and wish to develop their cooperation in various fields on the basis of equality and mutual benefits. He thanked the Myanmar Government for its wish to protect and develop the relations between the two countries, as well as its readiness to share experiences with Vietnam in the economic field. He also said Vietnam was ready to share experiences with Myanmar in agricultural development, especially wet rice growing.

Doan Khue at Press, Publication Meeting

*BK0206141392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 27 May 92*

[Apparent excerpt from General Doan Khue's address at an all-army conference on press and publication held in Hanoi from 25-27 May—partially recorded]

[Text] As we have already reported, an all-Army conference on press and publication work was organized in the capital city of Hanoi from 25-27 May. Everyone was very happy to welcome Comrade General Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau, deputy secretary of the party Central Committee Military Commission, and minister of national defense, who attended and addressed the conference.

On behalf of the party Central Committee Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense, the comrade praised cadres, editors, correspondents, and employees of the Army press, publishing, printing, and cinematographic services for their achievements over the past years. At the same time, he pointed out the shortcomings and weaknesses which need to be overcome in the days ahead. He also thanked party and state agencies in charge of press and publication management, the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, the Voice of Vietnam, and the Vietnam Television Network for their constant guidance and assistance to help the Army press and publishing services fulfill their duties.

Regarding the orientations and tasks of the Army press and publishing services in the days ahead, Comrade General Doan Khue said:

[Begin Doan Khue recording] Dear comrades: Since the fall of the Eastern European socialist countries and the Soviet Union, imperialism led by the U.S. imperialists has feverishly attacked Marxism-Leninism and the remaining socialist countries from different directions and through many perfidious, dangerous maneuvers. Even in the communist ranks, there have been indications of vacillation of stance, denial of those achievements that so many people have shed their blood for, and negation of socialism itself.

In directing their offensive spearheads against the revolution in our country, the imperialist forces have lent a helping hand to those reactionary Vietnamese in exile overseas so that the latter can establish contacts with a number of discontented, degenerated, and deviant elements at home and have them circulate books and papers to call for pluralism and a multiparty system and undermine the unity and singlemindedness in the party and among the people. They have called for the depoliticization of the Army in a bid to deprive the party of its leadership role and overthrow the people's administration.

As far as the actual national socioeconomic situation is concerned, besides the initial encouraging achievements, there still exist many shortcomings in leadership and management. Injustice, corruption, and smuggling still

make their presence felt. A number of party cadres and members has become degenerate and deviant. All these facts have eroded the people's trust in the party, state, and socialism.

The entire party, people, and Armed Forces have undertaken many tasks aimed at coping with that situation and at contributing to successfully implementing the seventh party congress resolution and to advancing the cause of national renovation along the socialist path. Likewise, the Army press and publishing services must face extremely heavy tasks. The following has already been mentioned in the Political Bureau report. Anyway, I would like to repeat it here today.

First, it is necessary to fully understand the seventh party congress lines, as well as all state standpoints and policies. Positive steps must be taken to propagandize the revolutionary, scientific nature of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought. It is important to correctly and creatively apply those principles to the revolution in our country, as well as to disseminate them among readers, listeners, and viewers in order to create a material and moral strength to build and defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

The Army press and publishing services must take the lead in the struggle to foil the arguments and schemes used by the imperialist, reactionary, and opportunistic forces to criticize, negate, and distort Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought, as well as party policies and lines. Resolute measures must be taken to protect the party, the regime, and people. It is necessary for the Army press and publishing services to vigorously motivate the Armed Forces and the entire people to implement all party lines, and to strongly encourage new factors and examples of good people and good work to emerge from everyday's life. Adequate steps must be taken to make everyone understand the need to join hands in building an all-people national defense, developing the people's Armed Forces, promoting the blood-and-flesh solidarity between the Army and people, implementing the rear-Army policy, developing the traditions of Uncle Ho's soldiers, and actively responding to the movement against negative social phenomena.

The Army press and publishing services must help with the comprehensive task of improving the knowledge of members of the Armed Forces and society as a whole, as well as of further enriching a candid, wholesome, spiritual lifestyle patterned after both modern civilization and the Vietnamese people's traditions. It is my hope that to this end, party committee echelons, leading officials, and comrades in charge of overseeing Army press and publishing services fully grasp and satisfactorily implement all party standpoints and guidelines over press and publishing activities mentioned in the seventh party congress documents and the directives of the Secretariat, the Council of Ministers, the party Central Committee Military Commission, and the Ministry of

National Defense, thus guaranteeing adequate organization of implementation and fine results immediately following the conclusion of this conference.

The general political department should study and consider the arrangement of various staff agencies charged with guiding and managing the press and publication, ensure that printing and publication work be carried out in an organized manner under a suitable operational mechanism, and reinforce these agencies with cadres who possess steady viewpoints and stands and good professional knowledge. Attention should be paid to comprehensively improving the knowledge of these cadres so that they can fulfill their functions. The general department should rearrange the press and publication agencies, and print and publish various bulletins and newsletters to meet the demands for information of cadres and combatants, in keeping with the state regulations and the editing capability and technical facilities of the Army, each sector, and each unit. It should encourage and create conditions for the press agencies to operate and provide information in accordance with their objectives and goals relevant to their recipients for achieving practical results. Consideration should also be given for gradually rearranging printing facilities along the line of rationally streamlining and modernizing equipment.

All press, publishing, and printing agencies should refer to the guidance of the general political department and management agencies to study and rearrange their staff personnel and organizations for appropriateness, and should boldly place in key positions those cadres possessing a steady political viewpoint, good professional knowledge, good health, and an appropriate age. At the same time, cadres should be given advanced theoretical, practical, and professional training so that they remain always worthy of being militant journalists and writers in the new era. We should firmly grasp the developments of the political climate and realities in each period in order to study the improvement of the content and form of each book, newspaper, bulletin, radio, TV broadcast program, and set of films, and to ensure a correct line while attracting readers, listeners, and viewers in conformity with the healthy development of the press and publication countrywide. Particularly, the press and publication agencies directly subordinate to the general political department should coordinate closely with the press and publication agencies of the state, and secure the latter's support in terms of specialized and professional assistance and technical equipment, in order to satisfactorily fulfill their mission and step by step advance toward defraying part of their printing costs, thus reducing the Army's subsidies.

All agencies, units, institutes, and schools in the Army should make good use of books, newspapers, and films and organize radio listening and television viewing sessions well to help troops raise the standard of their political knowledge and enjoy a cheerful and healthy life. Moreover, they should create conditions for feeding information to the Army press and publication agencies

and pay attention to the advanced training of correspondents and collaborators, so that the latter two can report information, write, and compose articles to serve units and be a source of replenishment for all press and publication agencies in the future.

The Army press and publications are traditionally loyal to the party and people, and is always the assault force that can surmount all difficulties and ordeals on the ideological and cultural battlefield to fulfill its assigned mission. The party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Defense Ministry are convinced that after this conference, the tasks of printing and publishing books, magazines, and films in the entire Army will change for the better, will progress and bring about practical results, and that the Army press and publication—together with the entire party, people, and Army—will victoriously implement the seventh party congress resolution.

The party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Defense Ministry entrusted the general political department with the tasks of studying all the views expressed in this conference and proposing to the Commission and Defense Ministries various measures to deal with the problems of organization, operational mechanisms, and material and technical bases in order to help the Army's press and publication agencies constantly enhance their operational quality and effectiveness, and be worthy of being the mouthpiece of the military commission and the defense ministry and the forum of all the people and their Armed Forces concerning the two strategic tasks.

Le Quang Dao Visits Thanh Xuan Peace Village

*BK0406094392 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 30 May 92*

[Text] On the morning of 30 May, National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao visited the Thanh Xuan Peace Village in Hanoi. Doctor Nguyen Huu Hien, director of the village reported to the chairman on the village's situation since its establishment in December 1991.

The village is a charity non-governmental organization set up with the financial support of the (Oberhansen) International Peace Village and FRG Government. With its specialized, technical, and charitable activities, the village provides live-in treatment for disabled children whose parents were intoxicated by chemicals used during the war. Due to its limited capacity, at present, the village only admits 20 children from three to 11 years old. In the coming years, if more funds are available, it can admit up to 100 live-in children.

Under the support of the FRG Government, the Thanh Xuan Peace Village is one of four well-equipped peace villages in the country. It is a self-reliant charity organization with limited funds. In the last five months, with the wholehearted support of rural cadres, the village has tried to provide care for more than 20 disabled children sent from other places.

Chairman Le Quang Dao inspected classrooms, medical care offices, and children's living rooms and presented gifts to mark International Children Day. He commended the efforts of cadres and people working in the village and expressed his hope that, with the rich humanity tradition of the Vietnamese people, there will be more financial support of the village.

The Thanh Xuan Peace Village is one of the main charity organizations needing charity support from the public and organizations to help the unfortunate war children.

Australia

Keating Congratulates Fiji's Rabuka on Appointment

*BK0406094492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0800 GMT 4 Jun 92*

[Text] Australia has sent a message of congratulation to Fiji's new prime minister Major General Sitiveni Rabuka. Announcing that he has sent a message to Suva, Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating said Fiji's new cabinet appeared to be experienced and moderate.

Mr. Keating said a significant aspect was the appointment of Gen. Rabuka was supported by the Fiji Labor Party. He said the peaceful and orderly way the elections were conducted and the high voter participation was good for Fiji's future stability.

Mr. Keating told parliament, he was encouraged by Prime Minister Rabuka's commitment to developing an environment for dialogue, compromise, and agreement.

Fiji

New Prime Minister Sets Cabinet, Omits Rivals

*BK0306094292 Hong Kong AFP in English
0828 GMT 3 Jun 92*

[Text] Suva, June 3 (AFP)—Fiji's new Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka omitted the two main rivals for his job from the coalition government sworn in here Wednesday.

The 18 ministers in Rabuka's cabinet include 14 members of his Fijian Political Party [FPP], which took the largest number of seats in last week's general election but fell short of winning an outright majority.

It contains two members of the General Voters' Party, which represents Europeans, Chinese and other small ethnic groups, one Fijian independent, and the sole MP for the Polynesian island of Rotuma.

There are no ethnic Indians in the cabinet, the first since Rabuka's military coup of 1987 which is answerable to an elected parliament.

Two notable omissions from ministerial office are Josevata Kamikamica, who served as finance minister in the interim government and restored Fiji's economic fortunes after the coup, and Ratu William Toganivalu, a veteran politician and Fijian noble.

The two men were Rabuka's closest rivals for the premiership in three days of political jockeying which followed the announcement of the election result on Sunday.

A third striking omission from government is Ratu Finau Mara, son of the interim premier, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who clashed publicly with Rabuka last year.

Fijian cabinet list:

Prime Minister: Sitiveni Rabuka (FPP)
Deputy premier, minister of foreign affairs and civil aviation: Filipe Bole (FPP)
Minister of Fijian affairs and regional development: Ratu Meli Vesikula (FPP)
Minister of justice and attorney general: Apaitia Seru (FPP)
Minister of education: Taufu Vakatale (FPP)
Minister of finance and economic planning: Colonel Paul Manuelli (Rotuman Islander)
Minister of health: Leo Smith (General Voters Party) [GVP]
Minister of housing and urban development: Colonel Jonetani Kaukimoce (FPP)
Minister of public utilities, infrastructure and maritime: Colonel Avolo (?Iuvakaloloma) (FPP)
Minister of labour and industrial relations: Militoni Leweniqila (FPP)
Minister of lands and mineral resources: Ratu Ovini Bokini (FPP)
Minister of primary industries: Koresi Matatolu (FPP)
Minister of tourism: Ratu Viliame Dreunimisimisi (FPP)
Minister of trade and commerce: Harold Powell (GVP)
Minister of women, culture and ethnic affairs: Ratu Jo Nacola (Independent)
Minister of youth, sport and employment: Ratu Inoke Kubuabola (FPP)
Minister of information, broadcasting, television and telecommunications: Ilai Kuli (FPP)
Minister of energy and rural electrification: Mesulame Narawa (FPP)
Minister of state in the prime minister's office: Etuate Tavai (FPP)